



MCDONALD'S MAY BE LIABLE FOR ITS LABOR PRACTICES

Page 5



US IMMIGRATION ROILS POLITICS UP IN MAINE? AYUH...

Page 8

Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, July 30, 2014



President Barack Obama speaks on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, July 29, 2014, as he announces new economic sanctions against key sectors of the Russian economy in the latest move to force Russian President Vladimir Putin to end his support for Ukrainian rebels. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

US, EU Impose Tough New Sanctions On Russia

JULIE PACE
JOHN DAHLBURG
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — Spurred to action by the downing of the Malaysian airliner, the European Union approved dramatically tougher economic sanctions Tuesday against Russia, including an arms embargo and restrictions on

state-owned banks. President Barack Obama swiftly followed with an expansion of U.S. penalties targeting key sectors of the Russian economy. The coordinated sanctions were aimed at increasing pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin to end his country's support for separatists in eastern

Ukraine whom the West blames for taking down the passenger jet nearly two weeks ago. Obama and U.S. allies also warned that Russia was building up troops and weaponry along its border with Ukraine. "Today Russia is once again isolating itself from the international com-

munity, setting back decades of genuine progress," Obama said. "It does not have to be this way. This a choice Russia and President Putin has made." Tuesday's announcements followed an intense lobbying effort from Obama aimed at getting European leaders to toughen their penalties on

Russia and match earlier U.S. sanctions. Europe has a far stronger economic relationship with Russian than the U.S., but EU leaders have been reluctant to impose harsh penalties in part because of concern about a negative impact on their own economies.

Continued on Page 4

Israel hits symbols of Hamas rule; 128 killed

**IBRAHIM BARZAK
YOUSUR ALHLOU**

Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip

(AP) — Israel unleashed its heaviest air and artillery assault of the Gaza war on Tuesday, destroying key symbols of Hamas control, shutting down the territory's only power plant and leaving at least 128 Palestinians dead on the bloodiest day of the 22-day conflict. Despite devastating blows

new talks in which Hamas would be presented this time as part of the Palestinian team.

Israel's final objective in Gaza remained unclear a day after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned Israelis to be prepared for a "prolonged" war.

Netanyahu is under pressure from hawkish members of his coalition to topple Hamas in an all-out

"Tanks were firing in all directions and shrapnel was flying," said Moussa al-Mabhouh, a volunteer for Gaza's Civil Defense. "Smoke was rising from houses and from nearby workshops."

In one incident, shrapnel from a strike in Jebaliya hit near a car with U.N. markings, killing an employee of a U.N. aid agency and his brother, and wounding the man's 12-year-old son, said

In all, at least 1,229 Palestinians have been killed, including 128 on Tuesday, making it the single deadliest day since the start of fighting on July 8, said Palestinian health official Ashraf al-Kidra. More than 7,000 have been wounded, he said.

Israel says it has lost 53 soldiers, along with two Israeli civilians and a Thai national. Despite the heavy Palestinian losses, Deif, the



Smoke and fire from the explosion of an Israeli strike rise over Gaza City, Tuesday, July 29, 2014. Israel escalated its military campaign against Hamas on Tuesday, striking symbols of the group's control in Gaza and firing tank shells that shut down the strip's only power plant in the heaviest bombardment in the fighting so far. The plant's shutdown was bound to lead to further serious disruptions of the flow of electricity and water to Gaza's 1.7 million people.

(AP Photo/Hatem Moussa)

that left the packed territory's 1.7 million people cut off from power and water and sent the overall death toll soaring past 1,200, Hamas' shadowy military leader remained defiant as he insisted that the Islamic militants would not cease fire until its demands are met.

The comments by Mohammed Deif in an audiotape broadcast on a Hamas satellite TV channel cast new doubt on international cease-fire efforts. Aides to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said Egypt was trying to bring Israeli and Palestinian delegations together in Cairo for

offensive, but has not let on whether he plans to go beyond destroying Hamas rocket launchers, weapons depots and military tunnels used to infiltrate Israel and smuggle weapons.

Dozens of Israeli airstrikes and heavy tank shelling hit areas across Gaza, which was plunged into complete darkness Tuesday night after a strike on its sole power plant set a fuel tank ablaze. In the sprawling Jebaliya refugee camp in northern Gaza, at least 24 people — 10 of them from the same family — were killed and dozens wounded in a barrage of tank fire, Hamas health officials said.

agency spokesman Adnan Abu Hasna.

The Israeli military has said it is targeting Hamas command centers, along with rocket launchers and weapons arsenals, but has not provided explanations when asked about specific strikes in which many members of a single family were killed. On Tuesday, multiple members of at least five families were pulled from the rubble after airstrikes and tank shells struck their homes, including the mayor of the Bureij refugee camp, his 70-year-old father and three relatives, according to Palestinian health officials.

commander of the Hamas military wing, said fighting would continue. "There is not going to be a cease-fire as long as the demands of our people are not fulfilled," he said.

Hamas has demanded that Israel and Egypt lift a border blockade they imposed on Gaza after Hamas seized the territory in 2007. Over the past year, Egypt has further tightened restrictions, shutting down hundreds of smuggling tunnels under the Egypt-Gaza border that had provide crucial tax income to Hamas. The closure of the tunnels drove Hamas into a severe financial crisis. □

AROUND THE CARIBBEAN

Curacao police detain man in killing of Wiels

WILLEMSTAD, Curacao

(AP) — Police in Curacao say they have arrested the owner of a lottery business in connection with the 2013 killing of a prominent opposition lawmaker. Authorities said Tuesday that Robby dos Santos has been detained, though he has not been charged. He is the second person arrested in the case in less than a week. Police on Thursday arrested former Finance Minister George Jamaloodin as part of the investigation. Parliament member Helmin Wiels was shot five times on a public beach in broad daylight in May 2013. The 54-year-old politician was the leader of the Pueblo Soberano political party, which supports Curacao's independence from the Netherlands. Authorities have not revealed a motive.

Drought leads to \$8M in lost crops: Jamaica

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— A Jamaican official said Tuesday that a severe drought and brush fires on the Caribbean island have led to roughly \$8 million in crop losses over the last few months. Acting Agriculture Minister Derrick Keller said more than 16,000 of Jamaica's small farmers have suffered losses. Some 1,600 hectares (4,000 acres) of farmland have withered from lack of rainfall and scorching temperatures. "While the situation is serious," Keller said, "it is not catastrophic." At a news conference in the capital of Kingston, he told reporters the total area of arable land under production is roughly 300,000 hectares (741,316 acres). The government has allocated about \$266,000 to an agricultural agency to increase crop production in certain areas. □



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4 charged with murder in death of Asian student

TAMI ABDOLLAH
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

Four U.S. teens were charged Tuesday with murder in the fatal beating of a Chinese graduate student with a baseball bat and wrench as he walked to his apartment. Two of the suspects, ages 16 and 17, were charged as adults in the killing of Xinran Ji, 24, an engineering student at the University of Southern California who was attacked early Thursday.

He was able to make his way to his apartment. A roommate discovered him dead hours later.

The defendants — 17-year-old Alberto Ochoa, 16-year-old Alejandra Guerrero, 18-year-old Andrew Garcia and 19-year-old Jonathan Del Carmen — were expected to be arraigned on one count of murder with a special circumstance of murder in the course of an attempted robbery, prosecutors said.

Their hearing was reset Tuesday for Aug. 12.

Garcia, Ochoa and Guerrero also face a special allegation that they personally used a dangerous weapon — the bat and wrench.

Clayton Dube, executive director of the USC U.S.-China Institute, said the university and the U.S. and Chinese governments were working to get Ji's parents to Los Angeles from Hohhot, the capital of Inner Mongolia in northern China.

Ji had just escorted a study partner home when he was attacked, Dube said. □

US appeals panel strikes down state's abortion law

EMILY PETTUS

Associated Press

JACKSON, Mississippi (AP) —

A U.S. appeals court panel ruled Tuesday that a Mississippi law that would close the state's only abortion clinic is unconstitutional.

The case is the latest in the decades-long struggle by some social conservatives to chip away at a woman's constitutional right to have an abortion. The issue remains one of the country's most sensitive, politically and otherwise, with various challenges in a number of states.

The three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in a case involving the state's 2012 law, which required physicians at the Jackson Women's Health Organization to obtain admitting privileges at a local hospital.

Physicians at the clinic applied for the privileges at area hospitals but were unable to get them.

Attorneys for the state argued that if the clinic closed, women could get abortions in other states.

The appeals panel ruled that a U.S. Supreme Court decision in 1973 established a constitutional right to abortion. The panel ruled that Mississippi may not shift its obligation for

to end a pregnancy will continue, for now, to have access to safe, legal care in their home state," Nancy Northup, president and CEO of the Center for Reproductive Rights, said in a

"This measure is designed to protect the health and safety of women who undergo this potentially dangerous procedure, and physicians who provide abortions should be held to



This November 2013 file photo shows anti abortion protester Mary McLaurin calling out to a patient hidden on the other side of a sign outside the Jackson Women's Health Organization clinic in Jackson, Miss. A federal appeals court panel ruled Tuesday, July 29, 2014 that a Mississippi law that would close the state's only abortion clinic is unconstitutional.

(AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis)

established constitutional rights of its citizens to another state.

"Today's ruling ensures women who have decided

news release.

A spokeswoman for Mississippi Attorney General Jim Hood said the state is considering its options.

the same standards as physicians who perform other outpatient procedures," Gov. Phil Bryant said in a statement. □

Senate confirms Obama's choice to lead VA

RICHARD A. OPPEL Jr

© 2014 New York Times

The Senate voted unanimously on Tuesday to confirm Robert A. McDonald, the former chief executive of Procter & Gamble, to take the helm of the sprawling and embattled Department of Veterans Affairs after a scandal over the manipulation of patient wait-time data led to the ouster two months ago of Eric Shinseki.

In picking McDonald, who was confirmed by a vote of 97-0, President Barack Obama is betting that the

West Point graduate and business executive has the leadership, force of will and management savvy to overhaul a \$154-billion-a-year department in a political environment where Congress may not be willing to provide the agency with all of the money its officials have said it needs. McDonald, 61, rose to the top job at Procter & Gamble in 2009 during a three-decade career.

But he was abruptly ousted last year amid shareholder concern that he had been slow to adjust to chang-

ing consumer preferences as his company was losing market share and that he took too long to initiate a \$10 billion restructuring that analysts and some large shareholders had demanded.

His confirmation was not a surprise: As a corporate officer at Procter & Gamble, McDonald was also a skilled politician who built ties to powerful members of both parties.

He has donated to the most influential Republicans in Ohio - House Speaker John A. Boehner, Sen. Rob Port-

man and Gov. John R. Kasich - even as he worked with former President Bill Clinton's foundation to supply clean drinking water in third-world countries.

"This is the type of leader that we need at the VA at this very crucial time," said Sen.

Richard Burr of North Carolina, the ranking Republican on the veterans affairs committee.

"He clearly has the experience to run an organization as large and as diverse as the Department of Veterans Affairs." □

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US, EU impose tough new sanctions on Russia

Continued from front

However, Europe's calculus shifted sharply after a surface-to-air missile brought down the passenger jet, killing nearly 300 people including more than 200 Europeans. Obama and his counterparts from Britain, France, Germany and Italy finalized plans to announce the broader sanctions Monday in an unusual joint video conference. European Union President Herman Van Rompuy and the president of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso, said the sanctions sent a "strong warning" that Russia's destabilization of Ukraine cannot be tolerated. "When the violence created spirals out of control and leads to the killing of almost 300 innocent civilians in their flight from the Netherlands to Malaysia, the situation requires urgent and determined response," the two top EU officials said in a statement. Despite the West's escalation of its actions against Russia, Obama said the U.S. and Europe were not entering into Soviet-style standoff with Russia. "It's not a new cold war," he said in response to a reporter's question. Still, U.S. officials say sanctions already rippling through Russia are having a detrimental impact on the country's economy.

Russia's growth projections have been downgraded, and Obama said \$100 billion in capital was already expected to flee Russia even before Tues-

and Europe were willing to take if the situations remains unchanged. U.S. officials said they believe economic pressure remains their most effective tool,

equipment used in deep-sea and Arctic oil drilling. The EU also approved an arms embargo, though it would not restrict past agreements, allowing

sian banks, according to EU officials. The specific targets of the EU actions will be published Thursday, when they will take effect.



President Barack Obama walks on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, July 29, 2014, to announce new economic sanctions against key sectors of the Russian economy in the latest move to force Russian President Vladimir Putin to end his support for Ukrainian rebels.

(AP Photo/J. David Ake)

day's joint U.S.-European announcements. The sanctions, Obama said, "have made a weak Russian economy even weaker." Yet it remains uncertain whether the tougher penalties will have any impact on Russia's actions in Ukraine — nor was it clear what other actions the U.S.

and Obama reiterated his opposition to sending lethal aid to the Ukrainian military. The new European penalties a ban on the unapproved sale to the Russians of technology that has dual military and civilian uses or is particularly sensitive, such as advanced

France to go forward with the delivery of two warships to Russia, a deal that has been sharply criticized by the U.S. and Britain. To restrict Russia's access to Europe's money markets, EU citizens and banks will be barred from purchasing certain bonds or stocks issued by state-owned Rus-

U.S. officials said they expected Europe's list of targets to include some of the same energy companies, defense entities and financial institutions the Obama administration hit with sanctions the day before the Malaysian airliner was shot out of the sky. □

McDonald's could be liable for labor practices



Cars move through the drive-thru window at a McDonald's in Springfield, Ill. McDonald's Corp. on Tuesday, July 29, 2014 said it has been notified by the National Labor Relations Board that it can be named a "joint employer" for workers in its franchisee-owned restaurants.

(AP Photo/Seth Perlman)

CANDICE CHOI

AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — McDonald's is coming under intensifying pressure for labor practices at its U.S. restaurants.

The National Labor Relations Board said Tuesday that the world's biggest hamburger chain could be named as a joint employer in several complaints regarding worker rights at franchise-owned restaurants. The decision is pivotal because it could expose McDonald's Corp. to liability for management practices in those locations.

It also comes as protests for higher pay have captured national attention, with labor groups calling for pay of \$15 an hour and the right to unionize. Organizers had been pushing to get McDonald's named as a joint employer at franchised restaurants, a move intended to give them a centralized and powerful target.

In the U.S., the vast majority of McDonald's more than 14,000 restaurants are owned and operated by franchisees. The same is true for many other fast-food chains, including Burger King and Yum Brands, which owns Taco Bell, KFC and Pizza hut. As such, the companies have sought to distance themselves from the pay pro-

tests by saying they don't determine wages at its franchised locations.

Heather Smedstad, senior vice president of human resources for McDonald's USA, said in a phone interview that the company has never been determined to be a joint employer in the past and that it would fight the decision by the labor board. "This is such a radical departure that it should be a concern to business men and women across the country," she said.

Still, labor organizers say McDonald's should be held accountable because it has so much control in setting the terms for how its restaurants are run, including what menus, supplies, uniforms and training materials are used.

"There's really no doubt who's in charge," said Micah Wissinger, an attorney who brought a case on behalf of McDonald's workers in New York City.

In March, lawsuits on behalf of McDonald's workers in three states also detailed use of company software that monitors the ratio of labor costs as a percentage of sales at its restaurants. When that ratio climbs above a target, workers were forced to wait around before they could clock in, according to one of the suits.

McDonald's, based in Oak Brook, Illinois, has said it would investigate the claims.

In a call arranged by labor organizers, longtime McDonald's worker Richard Eiker also recounted how McDonald's regularly sends representatives to check up on how franchisees are running restaurants, including by standing outside the drive-thru to time how quickly cars go through.

"Managers go crazy when corporate comes in for these inspections," he said, adding that restaurants are constantly told to keep costs down. The National Labor Relations Board said 181 cases involving McDonald's have been filed since 2012. □

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Urban Institute Study:

More than 35% in US facing debt collection agencies

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 35 percent of Americans have debts and unpaid bills that have been reported to collection agencies, according to a study released Tuesday by the Urban Institute.

These consumers fall behind on credit cards or hospital bills. Their mortgages, auto loans or student debt pile up, unpaid. Even past-due gym membership fees or cellphone contracts can end up with a collection agency, potentially hurting credit scores and job prospects, said Caroline Ratcliffe, a senior fellow at the Washington-based think tank.

"Roughly, every third person you pass on the street is going to have debt in collections," Ratcliffe said. "It can tip employers' hiring decisions, or whether or not you get that apartment."

The study found that 35.1 percent of people with credit records had been reported to collections for debt that averaged \$5,178, based on September 2013 records. The study points to a disturbing trend: The share of Americans in collections has remained relatively constant, even as the country as a whole has whittled down the size of its credit card debt since the official end of the Great Recession in the middle of 2009.

As a share of people's income, credit card debt has reached its lowest level in more than a decade, according to the Ameri-



A Visa credit card is tendered at the opening of the Superdry store in New York's Times Square. More than 35 percent of Americans have debts and unpaid bills that have been reported to collection agencies, according to a study released Tuesday, July 29, 2014, by the Urban Institute.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

can Bankers Association. People increasingly pay off balances each month. Just 2.44 percent of card accounts are overdue by 30 days or more, versus the 15-year average of 3.82 percent.

Yet roughly the same percentage of people are still getting reported for unpaid bills, according to the Urban Institute study performed in conjunction with researchers from the Consumer Credit Research Institute. Their figures nearly match the 36.5 percent of people in collections reported by a 2004 Federal Reserve analysis.

All of this has reshaped the economy. The collections industry employs 140,000 workers who recover around \$50 billion each year, according to a

separate study published this year by the Federal Reserve's Philadelphia bank branch.

Health care-related bills account for 37.9 percent of the debts collected, according to a new report commissioned by the Association of Credit and Collection Professionals. Student loan debt represents another 25.2 percent and credit cards make up 10.1 percent, with the rest of the collections going for local governments, retailers, telecoms and utilities.

The delinquent debt is overwhelmingly concentrated in Southern and Western states. Texas cities have a large share of their populations being reported to collection agencies: Dallas (44.3 percent); El Paso (44.4 percent); Houston (43.7

percent), McAllen (51.7 percent) and San Antonio (44.5 percent).

Almost half of Las Vegas residents—many of whom bore the brunt of the housing bust that sparked the recession—have debt in collections. Other Southern cities have a disproportionate number of their people facing debt collectors, including Orlando and Jacksonville, Florida; Memphis, Tennessee; Columbia, South Carolina; and Jackson, Mississippi.

A few major factors appear to be driving the delinquencies, said Eric Salazar, the Texas and Florida manager for the credit counseling agency GreenPath.

First, many of these workers have low-paying jobs in construction and services, in addition to minimal edu-

cation on their finances.

"There is not the income growth to save and they have to make survival decisions," Salazar said. "You make the decision to pay for the roof over your head and to feed your family and that's all you can afford to do."

Secondly, these states are home to retirees who live on fixed incomes and may struggle to pay medical bills, Salazar said.

Other cities have populations that have largely managed to repay their bills on time. Just 20.1 percent of Minneapolis residents have debts in collection. Boston, Honolulu and San Jose, California, are similarly low.

Only about 20 percent of Americans with credit records have any debt at all. Yet high debt levels don't always lead to more delinquencies, since the debt largely comes from mortgages. An average San Jose resident has \$97,150 in total debt, with 84 percent of it tied to a mortgage. But because incomes and real estate values are higher in the technology hub, those residents are less likely to be delinquent.

By contrast, the average person in the Texas city of McAllen has only \$23,546 in debt, yet more than half of the population has debt in collections, more than anywhere else in the United States.

The Urban Institute's Ratcliffe said that stagnant incomes are key to why some parts of the country are struggling to repay their debt. □



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US Financial Front:

America's consumer confidence jumps to 90.9 in July



Carry Johnson, left, shows dresses to her daughters Zoey, 3, center, and Payton while they shop at a Costco in Plano, Texas. The private Conference Board reported positive data on US consumer confidence for July on Tuesday, July 29, 2014.

(AP Photo/LM Otero)

M. CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. consumers are more confident about the economy than they have been in nearly seven years. The Conference Board said Tuesday that its confidence

index rose to 90.9 in July from an upwardly revised 86.4 in June.

The July reading is the highest since October 2007, two months before the Great Recession officially began. It was the third straight increase in the index. Econo-

mists said that strong job growth has helped boost consumers' assessment of current conditions and also improved their outlook on jobs and the economy.

"Americans felt a heck of a lot more confident in July," said Jennifer Lee, senior

economist at BMO Capital Markets. She said that part of the confidence boost likely came from declining gas prices.

Conference Board economist Lynn Franco said that the improvements in consumers' confidence and expectations about the future indicate that the recent strengthening in overall economic growth should continue in the second half of the year.

Confidence has been rising since bottoming in February 2009 at 25.3.

The index is now well above last year's average of 72.3 and with July's gain has now returned a level above 90, where it often hovered before the recession.

Consumers' attitudes are closely watched because their spending accounts for about 70 percent of U.S. economic activity.

For July, consumer assessment of the labor market improved with those saying that jobs were plentiful increasing to 15.9 percent,

up from 14.6 percent. Consumers' expectations about the future were also more optimistic with those anticipating more jobs in the months ahead increasing to 19.1 percent, up from 16.3 percent in June. The unemployment rate fell to 6.1 percent in June, the lowest level since September 2008. Employers added 288,000 jobs in June, marking the fifth straight month of job gains above 200,000. That is the best such stretch since the late 1990s tech boom.

Economists believe the job gains will continue in coming months and that that will help propel the economy to stronger growth.

In the January-March quarter, economic output went into reverse, falling at an annual rate of 2.9 percent.

That big drop was blamed in large part on severe winter weather. Those conditions dampened everything from trips to the mall by shoppers to factory production. □

US home price gains slow for May

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. home prices rose in May from a year earlier at the weakest pace in 15 months as sales remain modest in the spring buying season. The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index, released Tuesday, increased 9.3 percent in May from 12 months earlier. That's down from 10.8 percent in the previous month and the smallest annual gain since February 2013.

Yearly price gains slowed in 18 of the 20 cities. They

accelerated in Charlotte, North Carolina, and were flat in Tampa, Florida.

Home prices soared last fall and winter but have been steadily returning to a more sustainable level this year. Existing home sales have picked up, rising to an eight-month high in June. But they are still 2.3 percent below last year's level. And an index of signed contracts dipped in June, suggesting sales will cool. At the same time, the number of homes for sale has increased, giving buyers more choices.

After steady gains early

last year, home sales have been restrained by weak wage increases and tight credit, particularly for first-time buyers. Mortgage rates also rose last summer, slowing sales.

The Case-Shiller index covers roughly half of U.S. homes. The index measures prices compared with those in January 2000 and creates a three-month moving average. The May figures are the latest available.

Cities in the West and South showed some of the biggest increases. □

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Immigration debate roils politics in Maine? Ayuh...

ALANNA DURKIN
Associated Press

LEWISTON, Maine (AP) — In the whitest U.S. state, thousands of miles from the Mexican border, the debate over immigration is becoming a central issue

LePage roiled the cultural waters when he criticized the federal government's placement of eight immigrant children in Maine without advising him. He said Monday that the federal government was

visit to a homeless shelter in Lewiston. "There's not an endless pot of money up there." Since October, more than 57,000 children, mostly from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, have crossed

regarding its policy to notify states about the placement of unaccompanied children, and other experts didn't have that information.

The issue has risen to the forefront of races for governor in border states, like Arizona. It dominated a Republican gubernatorial debate there last week, in which the candidates outlined ideas including deployment of National Guard troops and more employer sanctions. But the issue has also crept into politics far from the southern border.

Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick's offer to temporarily house children at two bases has drawn both praise and attacks from the candidates seeking to fill the Democrat's seat. In Connecticut, Democratic Gov. Dannel Malloy's rejection of a federal request to house as many as 2,000 minors at a mostly vacant state property has left him vulnerable to criticism from Republican contenders, who have said the decision was made too quickly and was out of character.

In Maine, LePage's reelection campaign has attacked his Democratic opponent, U.S. Rep. Mike Michaud, for not taking a clear stand on whether he would agree to shelter children in Maine and sought to link Michaud's views with Patrick's when the two campaigned together in Maine last week.

LePage's campaign is touting his policies on immigration, including a recent directive that cities and towns not provide welfare benefits to those who can't prove they are living in the country legally.

Michaud's campaign said last week that LePage is using the issue merely to rally

his political base this November. Michaud said that the decision to house children in Maine would depend on a number of factors, including the cost and what sites are available.

"(LePage's) entire tactic is governing by division," Michaud spokeswoman Lizzy Reinholt said Friday. "He has tried very hard to pit one community in Maine against another."

Independent candidate Eliot Cutler said that if a child's family is already in the state, he supports reuniting them, but he warned that Maine would need federal assistance if asked to accommodate large numbers of children. Immigration advocates say LePage could hurt Maine's reputation as a welcoming home for immigrants.

"It's unfortunate that the governor makes a statement like that and it gets more publicity than all the positive things that people are doing," said Sue Roche, executive director of the Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project in Maine.

Maine, whose population of 1.3 million is about 94 percent white, is home to an estimated 55,000 immigrants and relies heavily on migrant workers for its blueberry harvest every August. An influx of Somali refugees to Lewiston, a former industrial city that has fallen into decline, ignited tensions between newcomers and natives in the early 2000s. But Somalis' small businesses have since been praised for helping revitalization efforts.

Today, immigrants fleeing violence in Central Africa are drawn to Maine in part because of its safe communities and wealth of faith-based organizations that provide assistance, Roche said. □



Maine Gov. Paul LePage speaks to the media at a homeless shelter Monday, July 28, 2014, in Lewiston, Maine. LePage, the governor of the state with the largest percentage of white people, placed thousands of miles from the southern border, has thrust the issue of immigration to the forefront with his criticism over the federal government's placement of eight immigrants in the state.

(AP Photo/Robert F. Bukaty)

in one of the nation's most closely watched governor's races.

With its close-knit communities and a practice of labeling non-natives as "from away," Mainers have a reputation for being insular. But they have also embraced the need for immigrants as the state's population ages and declines. So Republican Gov. Paul

LePage ducking its responsibility by leaving the border unprotected and pushing the burden onto states. He said he worries about the financial impact if more children are placed in the state.

"If we have eight kids in the state right now and if there are any state dollars going there, there are eight Mainers not getting services," he said during a

visit to a homeless shelter in Lewiston. The federal government placed nearly half of them with sponsors across the country between January and July 7. The eight minors in Maine are a fraction of the thousands sent to states including New York, California and Florida.

The federal government didn't respond to questions

Shelling adds to mounting civilian toll in Ukraine

**MSTYSLAV CHERNOV
PETER LEONARD
DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)**
— Shells smashed into a residential neighborhood of Donetsk on Tuesday as Ukrainian forces intensified their campaign to encircle the rebel stronghold. The shelling killed at least two people, blew gaping holes in an apartment block and raised fears that the city is on the verge of severe bloodshed. Fighting also raged else-

main railroad station, has brought the war painfully close to the city of nearly 1 million. Ukrainian forces have made advances against rebels in nearby towns. Fighting between Ukrainian forces and pro-Russia separatists also has been heavy around Luhansk, the second-largest city held by the rebels. Five people died when artillery fire hit a home for the elderly there on Monday, local authorities said.

years; he was such a good person." On Tuesday, the national rail system said it would of-

fer free transport to people leaving the areas engulfed in fighting. But Lysenko, the security council spokes-

man, said rebels had blocked the railroad out of Luhansk, barring residents from leaving the city. □



A pro-Russian fighter gestures near a body of a community service worker who was killed during the shelling outside a residential apartment house in Donetsk, eastern Ukraine Tuesday, July 29, 2014. Local residents said it was a shelling from direction of Ukrainian army's positions.

(AP Photo/Dmitry Lovetsky)

where in Ukraine's troubled east, bringing the death toll to at least 24 civilians and 10 soldiers over the past day. And it prevented international investigators once again from visiting the site of the Malaysia Airlines jet shot down earlier this month.

The increased danger to civilians has brought sharp criticism from the United Nations and human rights groups. But each side blames the other for shelling residential areas.

The rebels insist the attacks are evidence of what they describe as the government's indiscriminate oppression of its own people. But Ukraine insists that it has banned the use of artillery in residential areas and in turn accuses separatists of targeting civilians in an effort to discredit the army.

Donetsk until recently had seen little fighting other than a rebel attempt in May to seize the city's airport. But Tuesday's barrage, along with last week's shelling of the city's

"This is done by terrorists," said Andriy Lysenko, a spokesman for Ukraine's national security council, referring to the shelling of civilians. "Under instructions from the president, in residential areas and communities where we have Ukrainian citizens, we do not fire artillery or perform airstrikes."

But rebels accuse the government of indiscriminately using heavy artillery against residential neighborhoods in areas under their control. The Donetsk shelling sent about 50 frightened residents to huddle for safety in an underground parking lot, including Lubov Skorikh who was distraught at discovering that her husband Vladimir had been killed.

"I ran out. ... An old woman told me, 'Look, there is a man lying there.' I didn't even think that could be my husband. But then I saw the shoes; they were his shoes," she said, breaking down in tears. "Do you understand? His shoes! My God, I lived with him for 45



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Militia gunfire in Libya capital as inferno rages

MAGGIE MICHAEL

Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Heavy gunfire between warring militias prevented firefighters from battling a massive inferno in Libya's capital Tuesday, despite calls for a cease-fire to end the worst violence in the capital since the country's 2011 civil war.

The blaze engulfing oil depots started earlier in the crossfire of militias fighting over Tripoli's international airport, a weekslong battle between rivals mirroring the violence that's plagued Libya since the downfall of dictator Moammar Gadhafi. In the eastern city of Benghazi, Islamist-led militias said they also seized bases of a renegade general fighting against them Tuesday

as a jet fighter crashed. The violence has impeded the country's democratic transition and its escalation is the biggest challenge facing Libya's newly elected 200-member parliament, which will take office in August.

Earlier this month, a militia composed of fighters from the western city of Misrata backed by others stationed in the capital carried a surprise attack on the airport, held for the last three years by a militia from the mountain town of Zintan.

The fighting forced authorities to shut down the airport after it was devastated in shelling. The Health Ministry said that 97 people have been killed and more than 400 have been wounded in the

fighting.

The violence prompted many diplomats and foreigners to flee the country, including the U.S. ambassador in Libya and

Foreign Ministry said in a statement Tuesday. The Spanish ambassador will remain in Tripoli with a reduced staff.

A cease-fire deal over the

leaving council members pleading with the militias to withdraw from at least a 3-kilometer (1.86 mile) radius to allow firefighters to fight the blaze. The government ordered firefighters to withdraw amid new clashes. Gunfire struck a fourth oil tank Tuesday, but it didn't catch on fire, said Samir Kamal, a senior official with Libya's state-run oil company.

Kamal said up to 80 million liters (21 million gallons) of oil and liquid natural gas are in the area, as well as gas cylinders used for cooking. "We are afraid that if fire sweeps the whole area ... (there will be) huge explosions that can impact lives of residents living in a 5-kilometer (3.11-mile) radius of the tanks," he said. □



In this frame grab from video, fighters from the Islamist Misrata brigade fires towards Tripoli airport in an attempt to wrest control from a powerful rival militia, in Tripoli, Libya.

(AP Photo/AP video)

United Nations staff. A Spanish military plane also evacuated 60 people from Libya, the Spanish

airport fighting mediated by Tripoli's City Council fell apart hours after they declared it late Monday,

Boko Haram targets political figures in attacks

ADAM NOSSITER

© 2014 New York Times

ABUJA, Nigeria - A long holiday weekend of kidnapping and suicide bombing, spilling over into Monday, highlighted an apparent shift by the violent Islamists of Boko Haram, with the group now targeting prominent political figures in two countries.

On Sunday, dozens of presumed Boko Haram members burst into the home of a key member of Cameroon's government just across the border from Nigeria, kidnapping his wife and killing an unknown number. On the same day, and then again on Monday, female suicide bombers struck in Kano, northern Nigeria's most important city, killing at least three and injuring others.

But it was Sunday's kidnapping of the wife of Amadou Ali, Cameroon's vice prime minister and one of

the country's most visible political figures, that represented an especially notable new trend in the terrorist group's tactics.

It followed an attempt last week in Kaduna, Nigeria, on the life of the country's most prominent opposition leader, Muhammadu Buhari. The attack continued to reverberate in the Nigerian news media throughout the long weekend marking the end of Ramadan, with commentators highlighting the potential chaos that Buhari's death would have provoked.

The same apparent motivation, destabilizing neighboring Cameroon's political foundations, was evident in the attack on Ali's home in the northern village of Kolofata, which he was visiting for the weekend.

Ali has for years been a pillar of the government of Cameroon's president,

Paul Biya, one of Africa's longest-serving and most autocratic leaders. He was the mastermind of Biya's long-running prosecution campaign against members of his own government, ostensibly to root out corruption, called Opération Épervier, or Operation Sparrowhawk, which has seen many high-ranking officials sent to jail. Analysts of Cameroon's politics have said Biya's principal motivation has been to maintain an unchallenged grip on power. The French magazine Jeune Afrique called Ali "the one who held the sword of Damocles above the heads of his government colleagues," and the man who "provoked sleeplessness in the political-administrative elite." About 250 heavily armed men attacked Ali's home in Kolofata on Sunday, according to authorities in Cameroon. □

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Chinese probe Microsoft over monopoly case

JOE McDONALD
AP Business Writer

BEIJING (AP) — China's anti-monopoly agency announced an investigation Tuesday of Microsoft Corp., stepping up regulatory pressure on foreign technology companies.

The State Administration for Industry and Commerce said it opened a case in June after complaints Microsoft improperly failed to publish all documentation for its Windows operating system and Office software. It said investigators visited Microsoft's China headquarters in Beijing and branches in Shanghai, Guangzhou and Chengdu in southwestern China this week. "The administration believes the previous investigation cannot eliminate that Microsoft engaged in monopolistic behavior," the agency said on its website. "The administration has launched an investigation of Microsoft's monopolistic behavior."

Microsoft, in a prepared statement, said it aims "to build products that deliver the features, security and reliability customers expect, and we will address any concerns the government may have."

Foreign technology suppliers face growing pressure from Chinese regulators, who have launched anti-monopoly investigations and announced plans to examine products for security flaws.

China relies heavily on foreign software and communications technology. Communist leaders have expressed frustration about the high cost of foreign know-how and have invested billions of dollars to develop their own phone, encryption, software and other technology industries. □

Afghanistan: Karzai cousin killed by suicide bomb

CARLOTTA GALL
TAIMOOR SHAH
© 2014 New York Times

KABUL, Afghanistan - Hashmat Khalil Karzai, a cousin of President Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan and a powerful supporter of the presidential candidate Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai, was killed by a suicide bomber in southern Afghanistan on Tuesday as he greeted well-wishers at his home, government officials and a witness said.

Hashmat Karzai was said to have been killed instantly when a young man embraced him and set off a bomb in his turban. The bombing, in Kandahar province, comes as political and security tensions have been rising in Afghanistan. Insurgent attacks in Kandahar in recent days have rattled the population, which had only relatively recently begun to enjoy a period of peace and security. The country is also mired in political uncertainty as the presidential runoff election between Ahmadzai and his opponent, Abdullah Abdullah, has been halted amid allegations of widespread fraud and threats of violence, forcing orga-

nizers to conduct a full audit of the June poll.

Neither the Taliban nor anyone else has claimed responsibility for the attack. Hashmat Karzai's death

April election. His brother Hekmat Karzai has been a close adviser in Kabul to Ahmadzai during the campaign.

"With immense shock,

a void. He'll be missed!"

The governor of Kandahar, Tooryalai Wesa, also expressed his sadness. "Hashmat was a big wall for Kandahar," he said.



Hashmat Khalil Karzai, right, cousin of Afghan President Hamid Karzai, during a news conference at the Serena Hotel where he protested his disqualification from the parliamentary election, in Kabul, Afghanistan, in November, 2010. Hashmat Khalil Karzai, who was a powerful supporter of presidential candidate Ashraf Ghani, was killed by a suicide bomber in southern Afghanistan Tuesday, July 29, 2014, government officials and a witness said.

(Christoph Bangerter/The New York Times)

is a clear blow to the Ahmadzai campaign: He ran Ahmadzai's campaign in the south and at the same time secured a seat on the provincial council in the

we've found out abt the death of dear Hashmat Karzai," Ahmadzai said in a statement posted on his Twitter account. A second post read: "His loss has left

The bomber had mingled with elders and local people who came to greet Hashmat Karzai at his home on the second day of the Eid al-Fitr holiday. □

Canada: Chinese hackers infiltrated govt. group

ROB GILLIES
Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Chinese hackers infiltrated the computer systems of Canada's top research and development organization, the Canadian government said Tuesday.

Canada's Treasury Board said a "highly sophisticated Chinese state-sponsored actor" hacked into the National Research Council, which partners its scientists, engineers and business experts with private industry to bring new technologies

to market.

Adam Hodge, a spokesman for Canadian foreign minister John Baird, said Baird discussed the matter with his counterpart while in Beijing on Tuesday and had a "full and frank exchange of views on the matter." Baird is in Asia on a trade mission.

"The government takes this issue very seriously and we are addressing it at the highest levels in both Beijing and Ottawa," Hodge said.

The Canadian govern-

ment said NRC's computers have been isolated from the rest of the government's systems as a precaution. The government said one of Canada's spy agencies, the Communications Security Establishment, detected and confirmed the cyberattack.

The NRC said it would not release further information, citing security and confidentiality reasons. However, it planned to provide an update by Thursday.

China has often been accused of spying. Last De-

cember, a Canadian man was arrested for allegedly trying to sell classified information to the Chinese government about Canada's warship building procurement strategy.

Police said the suspect worked for Lloyd Register, a ship design sub-contractor to Irving Shipbuilding. Authorities said the classified information relates to Canada's strategy on building patrol ships, frigates, naval auxiliary vessels, science research vessels and ice breakers. □

Venezuela: Calm is projected at Mercosur summit



Uruguay's President Jose Mujica, from left, Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff, Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro, Argentina's President Cristina Fernandez, Paraguay's President Horacio Cartes and Bolivia's President Evo Morales, wave during the official photo session in Bolivar Square, in Caracas, Venezuela, Tuesday, July 29, 2014. The South American leaders have gathered in Caracas to attend the one-day 46th Mercosur Summit. The trade bloc presidency, currently held by Maduro, will be transferred to Fernandez.

(AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos)

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Heads of state from around Latin America are converging in Caracas for a long-delayed trade summit, a sign of returning normalcy for a country only recently wracked by violent protests. The summit of the South American

trading bloc Mercosur was repeatedly postponed earlier this year as an anti-government protest movement engulfed Venezuela. On Tuesday, the long-postponed meeting finally began, with the presidents of Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and other countries going

on a televised tourism expedition. Later in the day, the leaders are expected to discuss new trade agreements. The meeting comes as Argentina is on the brink of a debt default, facing a Wednesday deadline to repay or negotiate with investors. □

Brazil:

Prosecutors want water rationing plan

STAN LEHMAN
Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — Federal prosecutors have asked the government of Sao Paulo to present water rationing plans for Brazil's most populous state to prevent the collapse of its main reservoir.

If such plans are not presented in 10 days, the prosecutor's office said on its website it may ask courts to force rationing.

Sao Paulo is facing the worst drought in more than 80 years.

The key Cantareira water system, which provides water to some 9 million of the 20 million people living in the metropolitan area of Sao Paulo city, is at less than 16 percent of its ca-

capacity of 1 trillion liters (264 billion gallons).

Citing a study prepared by the state university of Campinas, the prosecutor's office said that the Cantareira system could run dry in 100 days unless rationing is implemented. The Sao Paulo state government's water utility said in an emailed statement that it disagrees with the "imposition of water rationing, for it would penalize the population."

Calling the drought the "worst in the state's history," the Basic Sanitation Company of the State of Sao Paulo said that it has already adopted measures that have resulted in savings equivalent to those of a rationing system of 36

hours with water and 72 hours without water.

Among the measures it mentioned is the 30 percent discount in the water bill for consumers who reduce consumption by 20 percent.

The utility said it "guarantees water supplies" until the next rainy season.

In a normal year, torrential rains shower Sao Paulo, channeling water through rivers down the lime-green hills to the north.

But this year, only a third of the usual rain arrived, with 9 inches (23 centimeters) falling during the December to February rainy season.

In May, the utility company started pumping water from underneath the gates of the reservoir's dams. □

Official says Venezuela tried to pressure Aruba

D. ARENDS GEERMAN
DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

ORANJESTAD, Aruba (AP) — Aruba's top prosecutor said Tuesday that Venezuela ratcheted up various types of pressure against the Dutch Caribbean island and the Netherlands in recent days to try to win the release of a powerful former general wanted on U.S. drug-trafficking charges.

But Chief Prosecutor Peter Blanken said the "actions against Aruba" were not the reason authorities decided to free Venezuela's ex-military intelligence chief, Hugo Carvajal.

Blanken told The Associated Press he believes Carvajal was freed because the Dutch foreign minister, after reviewing the facts of the case, decided he had immunity from arrests.

"There were several actions against Aruba from the Venezuelan government. But as far as I'm concerned, Mr. Carvajal was released because he was found to have diplomatic immunity," Blanken said in a phone interview Tuesday.

Carvajal, who was designated to be Venezuela's consul to Aruba, was detained at the Caribbean island's airport last week on a request from U.S. prosecutors. U.S. authorities alleged Carvajal is one of several high-ranking Venezuelan military and law enforcement officials who provided haven to drug traffickers from neighboring Colombia and helped them move U.S.-bound cocaine through Venezuela.

Venezuela protested the detention, citing diplomatic immunity, though Carvajal had not yet been accredited as consul. Dutch Caribbean officials say Venezuela responded by temporarily suspending flights to Aruba and threatening to cut off fuel shipments to the neighboring island of Curacao.

Carvajal was freed from a detention center late Sunday, shortly after Dutch Foreign Minister Frans Timmermans decided he had diplomatic immunity. However, he also declared Carvajal a "persona non grata" — a term used by governments to remove foreign diplomats.

Dutch Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Annemijn van den Broek said the decision was based solely on a review of the legal case. "In no way did any pressure exercised by anyone influence our analysis," she said Tuesday.

Blanken said U.S. media reports that Venezuela raised military pressure to try to secure Carvajal's release were "misleading."

Local authorities, he said, were alarmed early Sunday when several Venezuelan naval ships were tracked close to the territorial waters of Aruba. However, the Royal Dutch Marines found that the ships were on a normal route.

"I did not perceive the movement of the ships as a threat since they were coming back from (an exercise) on their way to their basis in Puerto Cabello," said Aruban Justice Minister Arthur Dowers.

On Monday, U.S. State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki had said Washington was "disturbed by credible reports that have come to us indicating the Venezuelan government threatened the governments of Aruba, the Netherlands, and others" to obtain Carvajal's release. The U.S. did not elaborate on the nature of the threats.

Carvajal returned to a hero's welcome in Venezuela. Before a cheering crowd, President Nicolas Maduro said the former general was "rescued" and called his return a "great satisfaction." □



For their great contributions to Aruba;

The Aruba Tourism Authority Recognizes the Ardis Family

PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very special young lady as Ambassador of Goodwill, the honoree was Ms. Aubrey Ardis from Wood-Ridge New Jersey, and at the same time present her father Mr. David Ardis and uncle Mr. Rick Ardis with a commemorative award in the memory of their late mother Mrs. Philomena Ardis, better known in the travel industry as Maisie.

Maisie first visited Aruba in July, 1979, staying at the Concorde for a week.

Shortly after that visit she began bringing groups to Aruba, first at the Aruba

anni's, Sole Mare, Azzurro, The French Steakhouse, Red Parrot, Chalet Suisse, Twinklebone's, Buccaneer and the former Talk of the Town Restaurant.

The groups generally numbered about 50 travelers, but reached upwards of 75 and even 100 on a few occasions.

She purchased three weeks of timeshare at the Renaissance while under construction as Harbourtown.

Her grandchildren Aubrey and Andrew began visiting Aruba in 1994 when Aubrey was 6 months old and Andrew was about to turn 2 years.

In 2004 they received their 10 year awards when Au-



Palm Beach Hotel, then to the former Wyndham Resort.

Ardis Travel would often have the option of staying for one or two weeks. Maisie would include breakfast at the hotel and dinners at a variety of restaurants, including Gi-

brey was 9½ being the youngest person ever to be honored.

Maisie and Rick were among the first travel agents to become Aruba Certified Expert (ACE) Agents.

Since she annually visited her timeshare, escorted

groups and took the occasional "fam-trip," Maisie often visited Aruba 3 times per-year.

Aruba Tourism Authority believes she had been in Aruba between 75 and 100 times, and had sent several thousand visitors from Ardis Travel.



Philomena "Maisie" Ardis passed away on December 12, 2013 after a 5 year battle with cancer.

On Sunday, July 27, 2014, the Aruba Tourism Authority, represented by Ms. Valery Habibe and Mr. Ernest Giel, arranged a very special dinner at Gianni's Restaurant for the Ardis family as this is one of Maisie and her granddaughter Aubrey's favorite Restaurants.

Present during the honoring ceremony from the Ardis family were Rick, David and Aubrey and boyfriend Julius Raposo, as well as family friend Mrs. Karen Horn and Gianni's owner Mr. Daniel Ferrara.

ATA representatives Ms. Valery Habibe and Mr. Ernest Giel wishes the Ardis Family all the best in the future with their travel agency and many more visits to Aruba! □

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Loyal visitors honored at the Paradise Beach Villas



EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba at the Paradise Beach Villas as Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who



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visit Aruba for 20-or-more consecutive years. The honorees were Will and Sandra Schnieder from Castro Valley, California and Jack and Patricia Valenti from Venter Moriches, New York. All the honorees are loyal members of the Paradise Beach Villas and they love Aruba very much because

of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, and being on Aruba and staying at the Paradise is like being home for them. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Milca Erasmus representing the Paradise Beach Villas. □

When visiting from Kentucky:

Salt & Pepper Restaurant is the first stop for Tom and Beatrix!

PALM BEACH - Tom and Beatrix are on the island! That is not exactly a newsworthy piece of information, you could say, but this couple from Louisville, Kentucky, is celebrating 20 years of holidays on Aruba.

They come here not once, not twice, not even three times, but four times a year and their first stop is always Salt & Pepper Restaurant in the Arawak Garden. Their favorite dinner looks like this: fried brie to start with and beer-battered fried grouper as their main course with a pitcher of sangria paving the way to good conversations and laughter. The staff of Salt & Pepper would like to say to Tom and Beatrix: 'thank you for your countless visits through the years and enjoy your holiday'.

They hope to see you at Salt & Pepper at least twenty more years to come. □



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CASINO AND SHOPS

Dining at Amazonia; Argentinean Soccer Star Sergio Leonel "Kun" Agüero!



PALM BEACH - While vacationing at the Ritz Carlton Aruba for five happy days, post FIFA 2014 World Cup Games, professional Argentinean star Sergio

Leonel "Kun" Agüero Del Castillo who plays as a striker for Premier League Club Manchester City and the Argentina National Team, dropped in

for dinner at Amazonia. He was accompanied by family members and girlfriend Karina Tejeda, a famous Argentinean pop star, better known in

her native country as "La Princesita" or "The Princess."

"We were impressed with his charismatic personality and humbleness," says restaurant manager Raymond Talbot, "he said he loved Aruba and couldn't wait to come back next summer. " "Befitting their nationality, it was a family of meat-lovers," Raymond adds," they were very pleased with our

food, and we were honored to serve them."

Among Agüero's family members vacationing here, his son Benjamin, born to the star when he was married to Giannina Maradona, the youngest daughter of Argentine football legend, Diego Maradona, together they also enjoyed boating, shopping, tropical cocktails and a great deal of rest and relaxation. □

Ana and Jose celebrate their daughter's baptism at Amazonia Churrascaria!

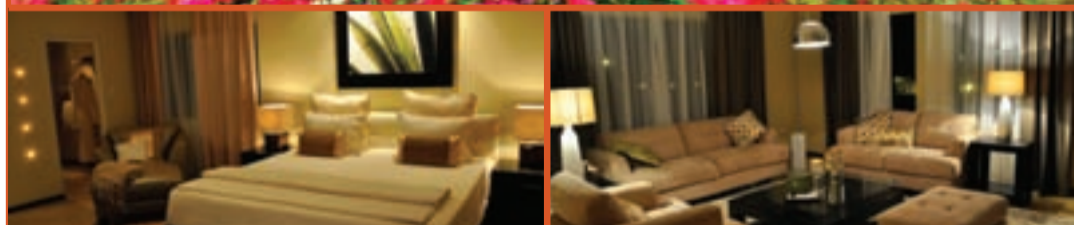


PALM BEACH - Ana Paola & Jose Mejia celebrated their daughter's baptism, with family members and friends at Amazonia. Cute baby Amy Paola's christening at the San Francisco Church must have been exhausting for her, as she slept like an angel through dinner allowing the Mejia-

party an uninterrupted, delightful experience. On behalf of Amazonia, staff and management we wish baby Amy Paola Mejia a wonderful childhood and successful adulthood, don't forget to come in for your first birthday, we always have cake and some party candles for you! □



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Attorney Joseph Siprut, the lead plaintiffs' attorney who spearheaded talks with the NCAA, looks on while attorney Steve Berman speaks at a news conference Tuesday, July 29, 2014, in Chicago.

Associated Press

NCAA settles head injury suit, will change rules

MICHAEL TARM

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — The NCAA, the powerful collegiate sports governing body, agreed Tuesday to settle a class-action head injury lawsuit by creating a \$70 million fund to diagnose thousands of current and former college athletes to determine if they suffered brain trauma playing football, hockey, soccer and other contact sports.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association also agreed to implement a single return-to-play policy spelling out how all teams must treat players who received head blows, according to a Tuesday filing in U.S. District Court in Chicago. Critics have accused the NCAA of giving too much discretion to hundreds of individual schools about when athletes can go back into games, putting them at risk.

The issue of concussions and their lasting impact has exploded onto the U.S. sports scene in recent years, especially in American football.

Continued on Page 18



NINE LIVES

Woods aims for record 9th title at Firestone

Page 19

Tiger Woods of the US plays his tee shot from the 14th during the third day of the British Open Golf championship at the Royal Liverpool golf club, Hoylake, England, Saturday July 19, 2014.

Associated Press

NCAA

Continued from Page 17

The NCAA has also come under increased scrutiny as a debate ramps up over compensating amateur athletes who receive scholarships but are otherwise not paid by the booming college sports industry.

Unlike a proposed settlement in a similar lawsuit against the NFL, this deal stops short of setting aside money to pay players who suffered brain trauma. Instead, athletes can sue individually for damages and the NCAA-funded tests to gauge the extent of neurological injuries could establish grounds for doing that. The filing serves as notice to the federal judge overseeing the class-action case that the parties struck a deal after nearly a year of negotiations.

Prior to the settlement, plaintiffs were scathing about how the NCAA handled the head injury issue for decades.

Instead of adopting stricter protections for athletes, the



Adrian Arrington, a former safety at Eastern Illinois University, talks about enduring five concussions while playing, some so severe he has says he couldn't recognize his parents afterward during an interview with The Associated Press at his home Tuesday, July 29, 2014, in Bloomington Ill. Associated Press

lawsuit said the NCAA chose "to sacrifice them on an altar of money and profits," an approach that occurred even though the NCAA had known for at least a decade "of the correlation between concussions and depression, dementia and early onset Alzheimer's disease."

The plaintiffs cited a 2010 internal NCAA survey that found almost half of college trainers put athletes with signs of a concussion back into the same game.

The settlement applies to

all men and women who participated in basketball, football, ice hockey, soccer, wrestling, field hockey and lacrosse. Those who've played at any time over the last half-century or more at one of the more than 1,000 NCAA member schools qualify for the medical exams. That means all athletes playing and those who participated decades ago could undergo the tests and potentially follow up with damage claims.

Joseph Siprut, the lead

plaintiffs' attorney who spearheaded talks with the NCAA, said the sometimes-tough negotiations ended with a deal that will make college athletics safer.

"I wouldn't say these changes solve the safety problems, but they do reduce the risks," the Chicago attorney said Tuesday. "It's changed college sports forever."

The NCAA, which admits no wrongdoing in the settlement and has denied understating the dangers of concussions, hailed the settlement. "This agreement's proactive measures will ensure student-athletes have access to high quality medical care by physicians with experience in the diagnosis, treatment and management of concussions," NCAA chief medical officer Brian Hainline said in a statement. To keep the NCAA from having to hold unwieldy talks with multiple plaintiffs, 10 lawsuits were consolidated into the one case in Chicago, where the first lawsuit was filed in 2011. Combined, the suits identified several dozen athletes by name as having suffered

brain trauma.

The lead plaintiff is Adrian Arrington, a former safety at Eastern Illinois. He said he endured five concussions while playing, some so severe he has said he couldn't recognize his parents afterward. Subsequent headaches, memory loss, seizures and depression made it difficult to work or even care for his children, filings said.

Another named plaintiff is former Central Arkansas wide receiver Derek K. Owens. After several concussions, he said he found he could no longer retain what he had just studied. His symptoms became so severe he dropped out of school in 2011, telling his mother: "I feel like a 22-year-old with Alzheimer's." Among other settlement terms, all athletes will take baseline neurological tests to start each year to help doctors determine the severity of any concussion during the season; concussion education will be mandated for coaches and athletes; and a new, independent Medical Science Committee will oversee the medical testing. □

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Woods faces 2 big weeks that shape rest of season

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — The landmark at Firestone Country Club is among the most popular in America, a massive water tower in the shape of a golf ball on a tee.

As it prepares to host the Bridgestone Invitational this week, Tiger Woods has reason to see only a big ATM machine.

Woods has eight wins at Firestone, one more than Matt Kuchar has won on the PGA Tour. In 15 appearances, he has made \$11.06 million, which is roughly the same as Tom Watson has made in four decades on the PGA Tour.

OK, that's not a fair comparison. Watson played at a time when total prize money at tournaments was about the same as a first-place check today. Firestone featured the biggest payoff on the PGA Tour schedule — majors included — when Watson won in 1980. He earned \$100,000.

Then again, Watson might be the perfect reference point for the peculiar plight of Woods.

For example, who could have imagined one year ago that when Woods returned to the Bridgestone Invitational as the defending champion, he would be four spots behind the 64-year-old Watson in the FedEx Cup? Or that Watson would have as many rounds in the 60s on the PGA Tour this year — four — as Woods?

Consider how different Woods' future looked a year ago.

Coming off his seven-shot win at Firestone (his fifth win of the year), Woods was tugging at his back seven days later during the final round of the PGA Championship. Two weeks later, he dropped to his knees with a back spasm during the final round of The Barclays. And two months into this year, he was out of golf for three months because of back surgery.

That explains why Woods is at No. 215 in the FedEx Cup, and why is unlikely to qualify for the playoffs barring a quick turnaround.

Woods won't rule that out.

Not with two big tournaments at courses where he has won, starting with the Firestone and then the

PGA at Valhalla, where Woods took the title in 2000.

"Is there any added pressure coming into this event? No," Woods said Monday. "I've won in this event eight times, so I know how to play under various conditions, various circumstances. Certainly, I'll draw upon those experiences and at all the events that I've played in that I've won throughout

er in dire need of good golf.

Two weeks remain before Watson knows which nine Americans automatically earn spots on his Ryder Cup team.

Woods is so far down the list at No. 70 that even if he were to win the \$9 million World Golf Championship event this week, he still wouldn't crack the top 20 in the Ryder Cup standings. All that would

top 10 on the PGA Tour since last August.

One glimpse of last year shows how quickly times can change in golf.

Of the top nine players in the final standings for the Presidents Cup last year, only two of them are among the top nine in the Ryder Cup standings — Matt Kuchar and Jason Dufner, the PGA champion



Tiger Woods of the US plays a shot off the 16th tee during the final round of the British Open Golf championship at the Royal Liverpool golf club, Hoylake, England, Sunday July 20, 2014.

Associated Press

the previous years. I've been able to win on this property. And that does help."

He will need all the help he can get.

Woods faces two big weeks that will shape the rest of his season — whether he's playing or watching from home, assuming he even watches golf on television.

And he's not alone.

It's easy to single out the struggles of Woods because his bad times are rare, and they look even worse when the only natural comparison is with his own unthinkable rate of winning. But he's not the only play-

do is make it easy for Watson to pick him. In fact, Woods might only need to show a pulse this week at Firestone (though based on his two starts since his return from back surgery, that's no guarantee).

Phil Mickelson is slightly better off. He is No. 11 on the strength of last year, when he won the British Open and was a runner-up at the U.S. Open. Mickelson won at Firestone before it was a WGC. He had the 36-hole lead at Valhalla in the '96 PGA Championship. But that was then. Lefty, who holds the U.S. record by making nine straight Ryder Cup teams, has not had a

who is barely hanging on at No. 8. Six players from the last U.S. Ryder Cup team are not eligible going into these last two weeks. Watson gets only three picks.

Jack Nicklaus couldn't imagine Woods being left off the team.

"If I was a captain ... I don't care what he does between now and then," Nicklaus said. "If Tiger wants to play, I would certainly choose him."

That's easy for Nicklaus to say.

All four times that Woods played for Nicklaus in the Presidents Cup, he was the No. 1 player in the world. □

AL Capsules

Darvish 8 Ks as Rangers beat Yankees 4-2

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) —

Yu Darvish struck out eight in seven innings for his 10th victory and J.P. Arencibia had a tiebreaking two-run single for the Texas Rangers in a 4-2 victory over the New York Yankees on Monday night.

Darvish (10-6) shouted out and pumped his fist after his final strikeout, when Brian McCann swung and missed to end the seventh with two runners on base.

Brett Gardner homered twice and Derek Jeter had three hits — to pass Carl Yastrzemski on the career hits list — off the All-Star right-hander, who threw 80 of his 108 pitches for strikes five days after losing a rain-shortened game in New York.

David Phelps (5-5) lost for the first time in nine starts, allowing four runs and eight hits over six innings. The right-hander, like Darvish, was credited with a complete game last Wednesday in the 2-1 Yankees victory that didn't resume after rain in the bottom of the fifth inning.

BLUE JAYS 14, RED SOX 1 BOSTON (AP) — Melky Cabrera homered from both sides of the plate and drove in five runs and R.A.



Texas Rangers starting pitcher Yu Darvish of Japan works against the New York Yankees in the first inning of a baseball game, Monday, July 28, 2014, in Arlington, Texas.

Dickey pitched three-hit ball for seven innings as Toronto romped past Boston.

The Blue Jays won for the sixth time in seven games while the Red Sox lost one day after stopping a five-game slide that began in Toronto with three losses.

Cabrera homered into Boston's bullpen in right field after Jose Reyes led off the game with a walk. Cabrera made it 9-0 in a nine-run sixth with a three-run homer to left, his 14th of

the season.

Ryan Goins had four hits and four RBIs for Toronto.

Dickey (9-10) had a season-high 10 strikeouts, allowed a run and walked one as he won for the third time in 10 starts. But against the Red Sox he's 3-0 with 21 strikeouts and two walks this season.

ASTROS 7, ATHLETICS 3 HOUSTON (AP) — Chris Carter, Jason Castro, Marc Krauss and Matt Dominguez each hit a home run to help

Houston snap a five-game skid.

Carter hit a monstrous three-run shot to center field in the third to give the Astros a lead, and Castro and Krauss went back-to-back in the sixth, with Castro's homer a two-run shot.

Krauss' homer found the upper deck in right field and chased A's starter Jesse Chavez (8-7). Two batters later, Dominguez

sent a drive onto the railroad tracks in left field off reliever Dan Otero.

The last time Houston hit three home runs in an inning was June 5, 2013, against Baltimore.

Brett Oberholtzer (3-7) won for the first time since May 30, giving up three runs on eight hits with two strikeouts in 6 2-3 innings.

RAYS 2, BREWERS 1

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Jake Odorizzi won his third consecutive start and James Loney had two RBIs to lead Tampa Bay past Milwaukee.

Odorizzi (7-8) allowed one run and three hits in seven innings to beat the team that took him 32nd overall in the 2008 draft.

Tampa Bay took a 2-1 lead in the sixth when Loney drove in two with a two-out, bases-loaded single off Kyle Lohse (11-5), who gave up two runs and four hits over six innings.

The Rays had won nine in a row before a 3-2 loss Sunday to Boston. The winning streak was the second longest in team history.

Mark Reynolds put the Brewers ahead 1-0 with his 18th homer of the season in the third.

WNBA

Ogwumike helps Sparks edge Fever 77-73

By CURTIS ZUPKE

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Sparks finally got a win at home, and it came with their best player watching from the bench.

With leading scorer and rebounder Candace Parker out with a left knee strain, Nneka Ogumike scored 21 points and Alana Beard had 17 to help Sparks beat the Indiana Fever 77-73 on Monday night.

Ogumike scored the final four points for the Sparks (12-14), who snapped a five-game home losing streak, dating to their last home win on June 24.

Los Angeles entered the game a league-worst 3-9 at home, a disappointing record given it was 31-3 at Staples Center the previous two seasons.

"We want to be able to defend Staples and we want it to be our territory," Ogumike said. "There's no reason why we should have more wins on the road than at home. Granted, it seems we can handle the road quite well, but we want to be able to get the advantage we can when we play on our home floor, especially coming into the playoffs."

The Sparks found out just

before tip-off that Parker aggravated a knee injury in warm-ups and wouldn't be available. Sparks coach Penny Toler said it would up to Parker to decide if she will play Tuesday at Phoenix.

Ogumike said losing Parker, who scored 34 points against Indiana on July 15, was nothing new during this tumultuous part of the season. Toler improved to 2-2 as coach since she took over after the All-Star break.

"We're a team of adjustments this year, so we've done a good job

of just focusing on the task at hand," Ogumike said. "We've had people in and out, but I don't think we doubt each other. We know what everyone's capable of, and we bring everything we can to the table."

Ogumike slipped behind the defense to take a pass from Kristi Toliver for an open layup and then made two free throws with five seconds remaining for a 77-73 lead.

Beard scored the go-ahead basket at 73-72 on a jumper from the right side. Indiana had chances to tie in the final seconds

but Briann January missed twice and Indiana (12-14) had to foul after it could not secure the rebound on Karima Christmas' intentionally missed free throw.

Indiana coach Lin Dunn was especially frustrated at the defensive breakdown on Ogumike's layup, plus three missed free throws by January and Catchings in the final five minutes.

"We didn't finish the game," Dunn said. "We didn't take care of business at the end when we needed to hit our free throws, when we needed get a defensive stop."

Ahmed sends Dbacks over Reds 2-1 in 15 innings

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI (AP) — Nick Ahmed's RBI single with two outs in the 15th inning kept Arizona perfect when games go really long.

The Diamondbacks improved to 13-0 all-time in games of at least 15 innings.

Ahmed's single off J.J. Hoover (1-8) gave the Reds their ninth loss in 10 games since the All-Star break, a slump that has dropped them below .500 for the first time since June 21. The offense has been the problem, scoring only 17 runs in those 10 games, by far the fewest in the majors. Oliver Perez (1-1) gave up a hit and a walk in two innings.

Addison Reed got his 25th save in 30 chances.

Cincinnati's Aroldis Chapman fanned the side in the ninth, extending his major league record for a reliever to 44 consecutive games with at least one strikeout. Clay Buchholz (5-7) left the game after allowing the first three batters to reach in the sixth.

BRAVES 2, PADRES 0

ATLANTA (AP) — Ervin Santana threw eight scoreless innings, Evan Gattis homered for the first time in more than a month and Atlanta blanked San Diego.

Santana (10-6) allowed just five hits and matched his career high with 11 strikeouts. Craig Kimbrel struck out the side in the ninth for his 32nd save.

Gattis led off the seventh with a drive into the left-field seats off Jason Lane (0-1), a 37-year-old former outfielder making his first big league start as a pitcher.

Called up from Triple-A to fill in for ailing Ian Kennedy, Lane shut down the Braves through six innings. But when the left-hander hung an 0-1 breaking pitch, Gattis hit his 17th homer of the season and first since June 18, before he went on the

disabled list for nearly three weeks with a bulging disk in his back.

MARLINS 7, NATIONALS 6

MIAMI (AP) — Jeff Baker hit a two-out RBI single to cap a four-run rally in the ninth inning as Miami won its fifth straight.

The Marlins trailed 6-1 in the seventh and Washington's Rafael Soriano (2-1), who earned his 200th career save Sunday, took the mound in the ninth with a 6-3 lead and blew a save for the fourth time this season.

Casey McGehee led off with a four-pitch walk, Garrett Jones doubled and Marcell Ozuna hit an RBI single. Jarrod Saltalamacchia's sacrifice fly made it 6-5, and a wild pitch advanced Ozuna to second base.

Adeiny Hechavarria ended an 11-pitch at-bat with a tying triple and pinch-hitter Donovan Solano was hit by a pitch.

Left-hander Jerry Blevins replaced Soriano and struck out Christian Yelich. Baker, who entered in the eighth, then lined a hit over left fielder Bryce Harper that hit the base of the fence.

Mike Dunn (8-5) pitched a perfect ninth.

CUBS 4, ROCKIES 1

CHICAGO (AP) — Tsuyoshi Wada earned his first big league win, pitching seven strong innings to lead the Cubs past Colorado.

Anthony Rizzo drove in two runs to back Wada (1-1), who was making his third career start.

Wada cut through the Colorado lineup, allowing one run and five hits. It was a far cry from his last outing, when he lasted four innings and gave up five runs in a loss to San Diego.

The sole blemish on Wada's performance came in the sixth when the Rockies got three hits, capped by Nolan Arenado's RBI single. Pedro Strop worked out of a jam in the eighth inning and Hector Rondon



Arizona Diamondbacks' Nick Ahmed gets a hit off Cincinnati Reds relief pitcher J.J. Hoover to drive in a run in the 15th inning of a baseball game, Monday, July 28, 2014, in Cincinnati. Arizona won the game 2-1 in 15 innings.

Associated Press

worked a perfect ninth for his 13th save in 16 chances. Yohan Flande (0-3) struck out eight in 6 2-3 innings.

METS 7, PHILLIES 1

NEW YORK (AP) — Travis d'Arnaud went 3 for 4 with a three-run homer and Bartolo Colon made his second straight strong start for the Mets.

D'Arnaud hit one of three doubles for the Mets as they took a 4-0 lead in the first. Then the catcher's seventh home run of the season broke the game open in the fifth.

The 41-year-old Colon (10-8) retired the first 20 batters

in his last outing Wednesday against Seattle, eventually allowing two runs on three hits in 7 1-3 innings in a 3-2 win. He wasn't as dominant Monday. But staked to a big lead, he was never in much trouble either, scattering 10 hits over 7 2-3 innings.

A.J. Burnett (6-10), like Colon a veteran who could attract suitors before Thursday's trade deadline, gave up seven runs and eight hits in five innings.

PIRATES 5, GIANTS 0

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Vance Worley tossed a four-hitter for his first career

shutout, and the Pirates pounded Madison Bumgarner early in a 5-0 win over the struggling Giants.

Worley (4-1) struck out three and walked one. His only other complete game came in a 7-2 win over the Giants on July 26, 2011, in Philadelphia.

Four players drove in a run off Bumgarner (12-8) in the first, and Josh Harrison hit his seventh homer in the second to provide all of Pittsburgh's pop.

Worley worked over hitters the rest of the way to hand San Francisco its fifth straight loss. □

Donovan leads Galaxy to 3-0 win over Sounders

TIM BOOTH

AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE (AP) — Landon Donovan scored one goal and set up the other two as Los Angeles won 3-0 at MLS Eastern Conference leader Seattle on Monday.

Donovan set up Gyasi Zardes' eighth-minute opener, then scored off a rebound 10 minutes later.

The former U.S. international, who was contentiously overlooked for the World Cup, also played a role in Stefan Ishizaki's goal in the 36th minute.

The three early goals threatened to produce a



Los Angeles Galaxy's Gyasi Zardes, center, and Landon Donovan, right, react next to Seattle Sounders' Zach Scott, left, after Zardes scored a goal against the Sounders in the first half of an MLS soccer match, Monday, July 28, 2014, in Seattle.

Associated Press

worst-ever home defeat for the Sounders, but they managed to avoid match-

ing the record home loss of 4-0, also against the Galaxy, in 2010. □

Liver Fire

By: Dr. Carlos Viana

As we approach the clinic, a gentleman is quietly waiting for his first Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) consultation. Several other people seem restless and anxious, talking loudly, almost shouting although they have only been sitting for a short time. After a long unusual season of rain, most of us are grateful to sit in the sunshine and invite the trade winds back.

However, although it is not yet the time of "high winds" as spring nears, we have bursts of the heavy breezes, which are the trade mark of our Island. The tropical sun can be unbearable with no wind, but for some, heavy wind becomes just as unbearable. In the Peoples Republic of China, we called the destructive effects of high wind, "wind evil."

Most people can withstand the negative consequences of gale force wind, but some, who have been consuming greasy or otherwise unhealthy foods, drinking too much alcohol or working too much the wind may bring a "sickness."

Anger, frustration, resentment and hatred over a long period of time can also make one susceptible to the negative effects of wind. Today's group brings a mix of symptoms and complaints which has not been relieved by other methods. We will begin now, with anemia, menstrual problems, pale, fungus or easily broken fingernails, then liver problems,

headaches, high blood pressure, eye and ear troubles, difficulty sleeping or waking up between 1 and 3 am. We find a whole host of stomach problems, swollen or painful chest or breast, heart palpitations, not being able to swallow in spite of no throat infection. Some "wind" affected people can be spotted from afar. They have a green hue around their mouths. Some as they walk into clinic leave a trail of strong perfume being used to cover up a sour body smell. Some people can barely walk in before they exclaim that they are "going crazy."

The wind will get stronger as spring approaches. With more wind, more people with "affected livers" will arrive. Many will hear me say "Your liver is hot!" "What? Is something wrong with my liver? I just checked and my house/family doctor said that everything was normal on my blood tests"

A "hot" or "Liver Fire" will not show up on any medical test, except as possible liver hepatitis. If a medical symptom cannot be measured on a lab test, does it really exist? To some doctors, if all the medical tests come back "negative," then the problem is "in your head." Oriental Medical Doctors (OMD), look at human organs from a different perspective than standard or Western medicine. Western medicine studies only physical aspects of the organs.



OMD's are trained to look at the amount of energy an organ uses in relation to the other organs. We use the heart beat of both radial pulses to determine the amount of energy being or not being used by each organ. We "read" or feel the pulse on both hands to evaluate 29 organ functions. Each pulse position tells us about a different organ and their relationships to each other.

For example, if there is no pulse in the Kidney position, we know that the adrenal gland, which sits on top of the kidneys, is working overtime. This can interrupt proper sleep. Without sufficient Kidney Yin, there is no "Yin" energy to send to the Liver. If the liver has no Yin energy, hyperthyroidism or over-active thyroid, hypertension or high blood pressure, and/or eye problems develop because of "Liver Fire." If these deficiencies persist, the "Liver Fire" rises and begins to affect the stomach and

heart. Deficient Heart Yin turns sleep problems into full blown insomnia, sometimes with heart palpitations' and hearing problems.

Unchecked, this becomes "Heart Fire Blazing Upwards" which can be felt in the throat as "something there," mucus or a "lump." Some people have their adenoids or tonsils and even thyroid removed with the feeling continuing. When the "Fire Blazing Upwards" reaches the head, symptoms include; ringing in the ears, dry, watery or twitching eyes, headaches and migraines.

Adrenaline that is being over-produced stimulates the sympathetic nervous system. This makes the heart beat faster, closes or dilates the blood vessels and relaxes the bronchial tubes. Blood Pressure can rise and emotional problems begin many times leading to prescription tranquilizing medication.

Get The Point! People coming to clinic com-

plaining of unexplained anger, stomach problems, heart problems, a feeling that "something is stuck in m throat", headaches at the temples, dizziness, the list goes on; yet, they are all suffering from liver fire. Natural herbs and acupuncture quickly start feeling better. We are entering the time of year when liver have a tendency to "blaze" upwards producing all these possible symptoms. Want to feel better? Come in so we can check the function of your liver and make sure you are as healthy as you can be.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270, Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

Dr. Viana's Award Winning BOOK: Prescriptions from Paradise, Introduction to Biocompatible Medicine – Available at local Bookstores, Hotel Gift shops and Boticas. Signed copies at Viana Healing Center, EBooks: Amazon kindle, Nook, iTunes check for Events at: [facebook.com/vianahealingcenter](https://www.facebook.com/vianahealingcenter).

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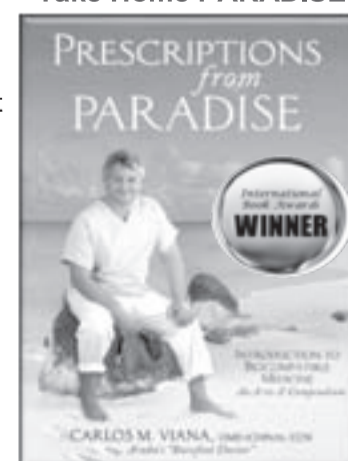
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Escaping email: Inspired vision or hallucination?

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Dustin Moskowitz is plotting an escape from email.

The 30-year-old entrepreneur has learned a lot about communication since he teamed up with his college roommate Mark Zuckerberg to create Facebook a decade ago, and this wisdom is fueling an audacious attempt to change the way people connect at work, where the incessant drumbeat of email has become an excruciating annoyance.

Moskovitz is trying to turn that chronic headache into an afterthought with Asana, a San Francisco startup he runs with former Facebook and Google product manager, Justin Rosenstein.

Asana peddles software that combines the elements of a communal notebook, social network, instant messaging application and online calendar to enable teams of employees to share information and not rely on email.

"We are trying to make all the soul-sucking work that comes with email go away," Rosenstein says. "This came out of a deep,

heartfelt pain that Dustin and I were experiencing, along with just about everyone around us."

The inconvenience keeps mounting in the corporate world, which remains an email haven. This year, each worker using a business email account will send and receive a daily average of 121 mail messages, a 15 percent increase from 105 per day in 2011, according to The Radicati Group, which tracks email use.

In contrast, consumers have been weaning themselves from electronic inboxes and increasingly turning to digital alternatives such as social media and mobile messaging.

More email translates to less productivity as workers spend time weeding their inboxes. Vital pieces of business information are sometimes corralled in an inbox instead of in a database that can be searched by anyone working on the same project.

If companies set up communications channels that work more like social networks, the amount of time workers could devote to other things would increase by about



In this photo taken Thursday, April 3, 2014, Asana co-founders Dustin Moskowitz, left, and Justin Rosenstein, pose at the company's headquarters in San Francisco. Asana peddles software that combines the elements of a communal notebook, social network, instant messaging application and online calendar to enable teams of employees to share information and do most of their jobs without relying on email.

Associated Press

8 percent each week, according to the McKinsey Global Institute. Another 6 percent of the work-week would be freed up if the shift away from email could unlock more of the

so-called "dark matter" hidden in individual inboxes, McKinsey estimates.

Asana is trying to solve these problems. Its bare-bones system, free to use for teams of up to 15 workers, is set up so information can be seen by anyone authorized by the company. Asana hopes to make money by selling subscriptions to more sophisticated versions of its software that can accommodate larger groups of workers. Moskowitz began working on what became an early prototype for Asana while he was still at Facebook in 2007. He had become frustrated with email's shortcomings and wanted a better alternative.

Leaving Facebook in 2008, Moskowitz remains a major shareholder for the company, with stock worth about \$7 billion, affording him the luxury to gamble on a startup that may be fighting a Sisyphean battle.

"I am not sure what anyone thinks they will be accomplishing by getting rid of email," say Sara Radi-

cati, editor of the Radicati Group. "If we didn't have email, people would be spending all their time on the phone and other channels of communication. Is that really any better?" While the Radicati Group foresees consumer email use waning in the next four years, the firm predicts the volume of business email will rise another 16 percent by 2018 to an average of 140 daily emails sent and received by each user. One Asana employee, Emily Kramer, wanted to prove it's possible to survive without email so she avoided her accounts in April. It was the longest stretch that the 30-year-old had gone without checking email since she opened an account in the sixth grade. Kramer found herself dealing with lengthier mobile messages that read like email. "A co-worker had told me, 'I think it would be easier to go without oxygen than email,'" Kramer says. "I definitely don't think that's true any longer." □

T-Mobile deal helps Rhapsody hit 2M paying subscribers

SEATTLE (AP) — Rhapsody International Inc. said Tuesday its partnership with T-Mobile US Inc. has helped boost its number of paying subscribers to more than 2 million, up from 1.7 million in April.

Last month, Rhapsody teamed up with the nation's fourth-largest carrier on a new service called unRadio. It allows users to stream randomly generated songs along a genre, artist or song name without ads. It also lets them save 25 favorite songs to their device and lets them skip an unlimited number of tracks.

T-Mobile's highest-tier customers got unRadio for

free while other subscribers got \$1 off the \$5 per month service.

Rhapsody also said Tuesday it is expanding the service to Europe through its Napster division in a tie-up with France's second-largest carrier, SFR. There, the service will cost 3.95 euros per month and be called Napster Decouverte.

Seattle-based Rhapsody's chief product officer, Paul Springer, said the gap between established players like Rhapsody and Spotify and other upstarts is growing.

European regulators on Monday cleared Apple Inc.'s \$3 billion purchase of Beats Electronics, the

headphone maker that runs the nascent music subscription service Beats Music. Google Inc. also bought Internet radio service Songza earlier this month for an undisclosed amount.

Springer suggested in an interview that privately held Rhapsody — with shareholders such as Columbus Nova Technology Partners and Telefonica SA — should be considered by any acquirers looking to get into music streaming quickly.

"Anybody looking to get in would be foolish not to look at established players with a subscriber base," he said. □

Stocks end lower ahead of economic data

MATTHEW CRAFT
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market fell modestly on Tuesday as investors waited for a batch of big economic reports later this week.

On Wednesday, the government releases its look at economic growth in the spring quarter and the Fed-

the jobs market.

With traders cautious ahead of these reports, the market has drifted.

"So far, it seems like this week is about waiting for later this week," said Bill Stone, chief investment strategist at PNC Asset Management Group.

Stocks spent most of Tuesday wandering around

0.5 percent, to close at 1,969.95.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 70.48 points, or 0.4 percent, to 16,912.11, while the Nasdaq composite slipped 2.21 points, less than 0.1 percent, to 4,442.70.

Telecoms were the only one of the 10 industry groups in the S&P 500 to rise as trad-

This week marks the halfway point for second-quarter earnings, and the overall results look solid. Earnings are on track to climb 8.8 percent over the year. At the start of the earnings season, analysts predicted an increase of 6 percent.

Among the heavyweights turning in results Tuesday, Merck reported a large sale and a tax benefit that helped it more than double second-quarter earnings, easily topping Wall Street's expectations. The drugmaker also raised its profit forecast for 2014. Its stock climbed 61 cents, or 1 percent, to \$58.58.

A warning of lower profits from United Parcel Service knocked its stock down. UPS said spending on technology to improve its service during the upcoming holiday season will take a cut out of its full-year earnings. The shipping company also said its second-quarter earnings fell 58 percent, though shipments and sales picked up. UPS sank \$3.80, or 4 percent, to \$98.86.

Twitter rose sharply after regular trading ended on Tuesday. The short messaging service reported that its revenue more than doubled in the second quarter. Twitter rose \$11.32, or 30 percent, to \$49.91.

Even with earnings coming in, traders are mostly biding their time until the economic news hits. □



Trader Glenn Kessler works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The stock market fell modestly on Tuesday as investors waited for a batch of big economic reports later this week.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

eral Reserve finishes a two-day meeting. The next day, a report on China's manufacturing industry will give investors an update on the health of the world's factory floor.

For U.S. investors, the key news comes Friday, when the Labor Department releases its monthly report on

the start line. Major indexes crept higher in the morning, following news that a gauge of consumer confidence hit its highest level in nearly seven years. Major indexes turned flat by midday then slid to a loss in the last hours of trading.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 8.96 points, or

ers plowed into a range of telephone and cable stocks, including AT&T and Verizon. The moves came after Windstream Holdings announced plans to move some of its network into a trust that won't pay income tax. Windstream's stock jumped \$1.30, or 12 percent, to \$11.83.

Aetna's 2Q profit rises 2.4 percent

TOM MURPHY
AP Business Writer

Aetna's second-quarter profit climbed more than 2 percent, as gains from an acquisition helped the health insurer top expectations and raise its 2014 earnings forecast again.

But the Hartford, Connecticut, company's shares slipped Tuesday after it also reported a higher medical cost measurement than analysts expected and a slight performance dip for its health care segment, the biggest part of its business.

The insurer said a better performance from its group life and disability business helped grow earnings in the quarter, as did an additional month of results from Medicare and Medicaid coverage provider Coventry Health Care, which Aetna bought last year for \$6.9 billion.

But the health care segment's operating earnings, which exclude investment gains and losses, slipped about 1 percent to \$584.3 million. Aetna's medical-loss ratio for its commercial health coverage, which basically measures the percentage of premiums spent on medical care and some other costs, climbed to 80.6 percent from 79.1 percent.

"The headline numbers looked fine, but a deeper look into second quarter results is less flattering," Citi analyst Carl McDonald said in a research note.

Overall, earnings for the nation's third-largest health insurer climbed to \$548.8 million, or \$1.52 per share, from \$536 million, or \$1.49 per share, in last year's quarter.

Adjusted earnings came to \$1.69 per share. That topped average analyst expectations of \$1.61 per share, according to Zacks Investment Research.

Aetna's operating revenue, which also excludes investment gains and losses, climbed 25 percent to \$14.5 billion. That also beat average Wall Street expectations for \$13.97 billion. □

Pfizer's 2Q profit sinks 79 pct; tops forecasts

LINDA A. JOHNSON
AP Business Writer

Pfizer's second-quarter earnings plunged 79 percent from last year, when the world's second-largest drugmaker booked a \$10 billion-plus gain from a business spinoff.

The New York company said Tuesday it earned \$2.91 billion, or 45 cents per share, down from \$14.1 billion, or \$1.98 per share, last year. Adjusted earnings totaled 58 cents per share, a penny more than analysts expected.

Revenue slipped 2 percent to \$12.77 billion, \$300 million above forecasts.

Among Pfizer's top medicines, sales climbed 16 percent to \$1.32 billion for pain and fibromyalgia treatment Lyrica and 14 percent to \$1.1 billion for its Prevnar vaccines against pneumonia and other infections. Pfizer noted increased generic competition to multiple Pfizer drugs, plus the end of some revenue-producing partnerships, cut revenue \$850 million in the quarter.

Pfizer Inc. is best known for creating medicines for the masses, including the erectile dysfunction pill Viagra, Prevnar and cholesterol fighter Lipitor, which was

the world's top-selling drug for a decade.

CEO Ian Read has been selling noncore assets and reducing costs to free up money for research on diabetes, cancer and other complex disorders needing better treatments.

Over the past three years, Pfizer divested its capsule-making and nutrition businesses. In June 2013, it spun off its remaining stake in its animal health business as a new company, Zoetis Inc., receiving an after-tax \$10.6 billion gain.

Then in May, British drugmaker AstraZeneca rejected Pfizer's \$119 billion buy-

out proposal, which would have been the largest deal in pharmaceutical history. Besides gaining AstraZeneca's drugs and pipeline, Pfizer wanted to move its legal headquarters to England to get a lower tax rate than it faces in the U.S., a strategy called "inversion" that is suddenly hot in corporate America.

In an interview, Read said Pfizer continues to look at deals of all sizes, with three goals: improving its portfolio of new and experimental drugs, limiting overlap in research and sales forces, and lowering its tax bill, as inversion would do. □

American Express 2Q profit rises 9 percent

ALEX VEIGA

AP Business Writer

American Express Co.'s net income grew 9 percent in the second quarter, as spending by cardholders increased and the credit card issuer set aside less money to cover potential credit losses. A one-time gain related to the company's business travel division also helped boost results. The New York company's latest earnings beat Wall Street's expectations, but its 5 percent increase in revenue fell short.

Spending by holders of American Express cards grew 9 percent during the April-June period, reflecting gains in the U.S. and abroad. That helped drive U.S. card services revenue up 6 percent to \$4.5 billion, while international card services revenue rose 7 percent to \$1.4 billion.

American Express cardholders tend to be more affluent than other credit card users, which is one reason the company has done well as the nation's economy has gradually im-

proved since the recession. This year, the economy is showing more robust signs of growth, with employers adding an average of 230,000 jobs a month in the first half of the year, up from 194,000 a month in 2013. That's helped knock down the unemployment rate to 6.1 percent, the lowest in nearly six years.

Meanwhile, consumer spending at retail stores picked up an average of 0.5 percent in the April-June quarter after a severe winter weighed on sales

earlier this year.

Increased retail spending can help drive profits for credit card issuers like American Express. All told, U.S. credit card debt is up 2.5 percent over the past year, according to the Federal Reserve.

This spring, American Express sold half of its stake in its business-travel division for \$900 million to an investor group led by Certares International Bank. The move created a joint venture that operates the business under the American Ex-

press Global Business Travel name.

That transaction, which closed at the end of June, led to the one-time gain of \$626 million during the quarter.

Non-interest revenue, including card and travel commission fees, rose 4 percent to \$7.34 billion.

American Express' provision for losses declined to 6 percent to \$489 million.

Expenses edged higher as the company spent more on marketing and cardholder reward programs. □

UPS 2Q profit drops, lowers outlook on spending

ATLANTA (AP) — UPS is willing to sacrifice some short-term profits to avoid a repeat of its failure last Christmas to deliver all packages on time.

The big Atlanta-based shipping company said it will spend \$175 million on improvements that include beefed-up operations on the day after Thanksgiving, more sorting facilities and sped-up deployment of software designed to help drivers find the quickest route to a destination.

UPS was caught by surprise during last year's holiday season by a big increase in online shopping and a crush of last-minute orders by shoppers who jumped on offers of free shipping. The company hired extra workers to handle the rush, but some gifts still arrived late.

Reflecting the boost to spending, UPS lowered its full-year outlook for adjusted earnings to \$4.90 to \$5 a share. It previously



United Parcel Service driver Marty Thompson steps off a truck while making a delivery in Cumming, Ga. UPS reported quarterly earnings on Tuesday, July 29, 2014.

(AP Photo/David Goldman)

expected to earn around \$5.05 a share. UPS also reported quarterly earnings that fell short of Wall Street estimates, although revenue was greater than ex-

pected.

Shares fell \$3.12, or 3 percent, to \$99.54 in morning trading.

David Abney, the company's chief operation officer

and incoming CEO, said UPS is working with suppliers on a joint demand forecast and adding 50 new sorting facilities in existing buildings, increasing capacity

by 5 percent. UPS has traditionally operated a limited service on the day after Thanksgiving, a giant shopping day known as Black Friday. This year, it will move to a full schedule. Abney said that will cost UPS more money but the change will pay for itself in the long run. "It smooths out the Cyber Week demand," Abney said, referring to the influx of packages from online shoppers.

For the second quarter, net income declined to \$454 million, or 49 cents per share, from \$1.07 billion, or \$1.13 per share, in the same quarter a year earlier. UPS took a charge of \$665 million for the transfer of post-retirement liabilities for certain Teamster employees to defined contribution health care plans.

Adjusted earnings were \$1.21 per share. The average per-share estimate of analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for profit of \$1.24. □

Drugmaker Merck's 2Q profit more than doubles

LINDA A. JOHNSON

AP Business Writer

A big one-time gain and a tax benefit helped drugmaker Merck & Co. more than double second-quarter profit, improve its profit forecast and top analysts' expectations.

The maker of popular Type 2 diabetes pill Januvia said Tuesday that net income increased to \$2 billion, or

68 cents per share, from \$906 million, or 30 cents per share, in the same quarter a year earlier.

Merck, based in Whitehouse Station, New Jersey, said its earnings, adjusted for one-time gains and costs, were 85 cents per share. Analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research expected 81 cents.

Merck recorded a \$741 mil-

lion gain from AstraZeneca PLC, which exercised its option to buy out Merck's interest in the British drugmaker's heartburn drugs Nexium and Prilosec.

The world's fourth-biggest drugmaker's revenue fell 1 percent to \$10.93 billion, still \$220 million above Wall Street expectations.

CEO Kenneth Frazier said on a conference call that

Merck favors smaller acquisitions — like its \$3.85 billion purchase of hepatitis C treatment developer Idenix Pharmaceuticals Inc., expected to close this quarter — and is not looking for a deal enabling it to move its legal headquarters to a country with a lower tax rate.

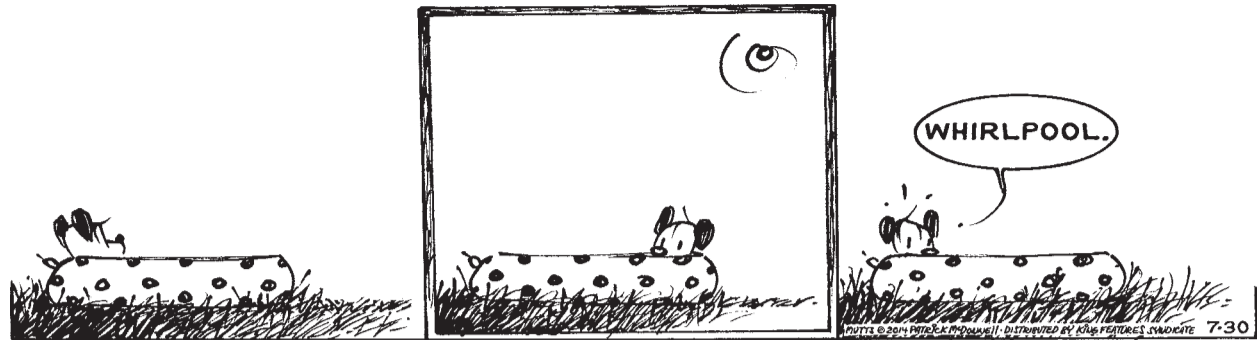
That strategy, called inversion, is suddenly hot in cor-

porate America.

The U.S. has the world's highest corporate tax rate, 35 percent, but pharmaceutical companies here generally pay well under 30 percent.

Chicago-based drugmaker AbbVie Inc. just reached a \$55 billion deal to combine with British counterpart Shire PLC and incorporate in Britain. □

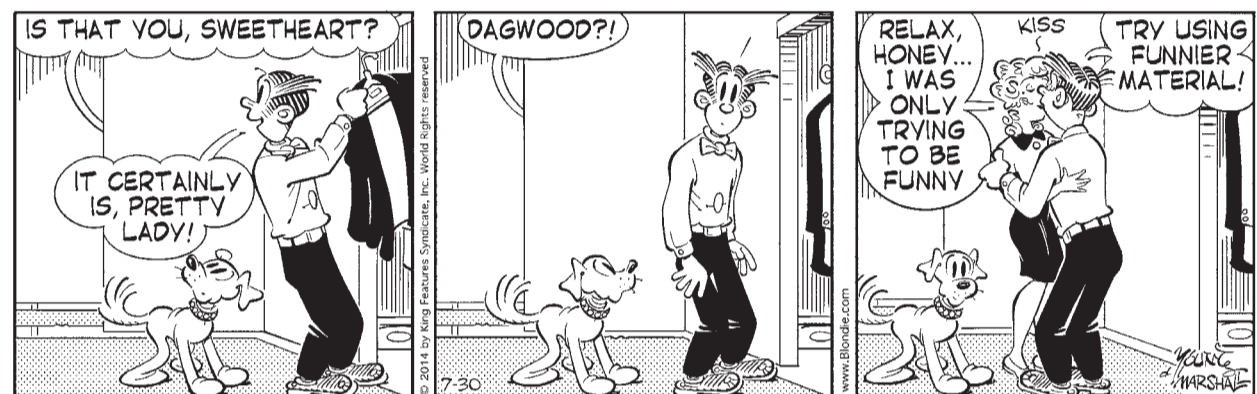
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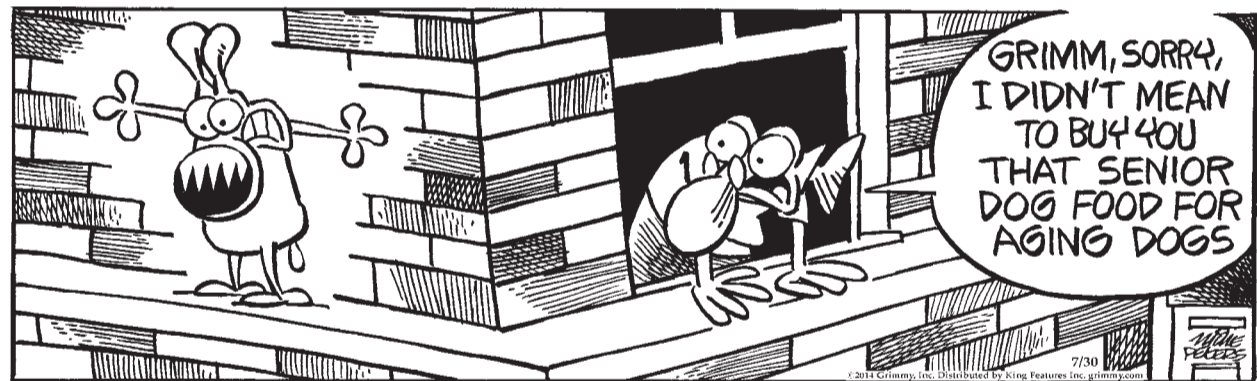
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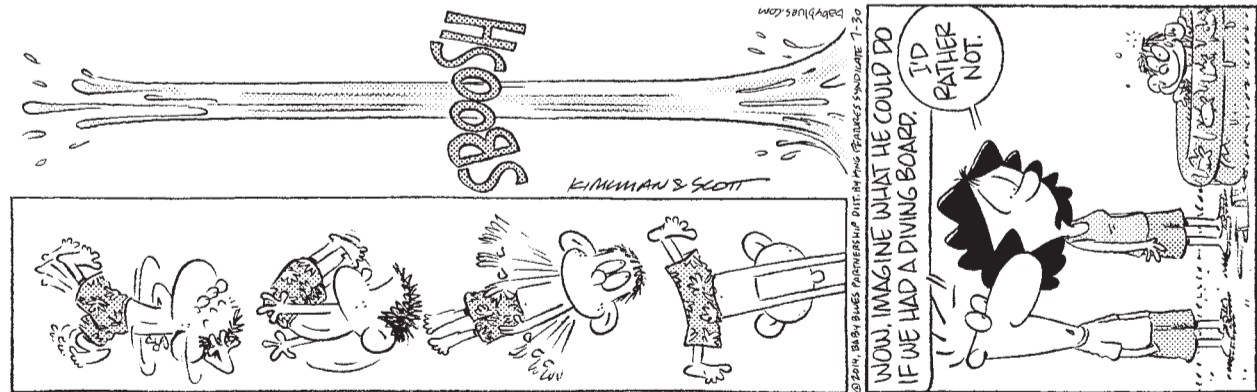
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Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	6	4	1	8	3			
		5			7	6	9	
		2			5			3
	5					8		1
6							2	7
7							4	
	4					5		
		3			4			
			6	2				

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

6	4	8	5	1	3	2	9	7
9	5	1	2	8	7	3	6	4
7	2	3	4	9	6	5	8	1
1	6	9	3	2	4	8	7	5
8	7	2	6	5	1	9	4	3
5	3	4	8	7	9	6	1	2
4	1	5	9	3	8	7	2	6
3	8	6	7	4	2	1	5	9
2	9	7	1	6	5	4	3	8

ACROSS

- 1 At the present time
- 4 More than enough
- 9 Gift toppers
- 13 Tavern drinks
- 15 TV comedian
- 16 Be a breadwinner
- 17 Toot the horn
- 18 Used up
- 19 Actress
- 20 Invest money riskily
- 22 Breathing organ
- 23 Apple's center
- 24 Actor Wallach
- 26 Think highly of
- 29 Bucharest man
- 34 Fracture
- 35 Planted
- 36 Pass away
- 37 weevil; pest to cotton plants
- 38 Rescued
- 39 Not as much
- 40 Afternoon hour
- 41 Reigned
- 42 Passed out cards
- 43 Adolescent
- 45 Long guns
- 46 foo yong
- 47 Aug.'s follower
- 48 Peru's capital
- 51 Stress; accent
- 56 Smell
- 57 Dinner course
- 58 Bodies of water
- 60 Sheet of ice
- 61 Hidden treasure
- 62 Ankara resident
- 63 Take care of alternative
- 64 Septic tank
- 65 Shift

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13			14		15					16			
17					18					19			
	20			21						22			
			23					24	25				
26	27	28				29	30			31	32	33	
34					35					36			
37					38					39			
40				41					42				
43		44						45					
			46					47					
48	49	50			51	52	53			54	55		
56					57					58		59	
60					61					62			
63					64					65			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/30/14

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

HARP	STANS	PROD
OMAR	KODAK	IOWA
SAGE	AROSE	GLEN
EDUCATE	SIAMESE	
	EWELANCE	
ABIDE	TAU	UNCAP
LANE	RIB	ATTILA
ASA	MONOCLE	GOT
MINCED	RUE	CAFE
OCEAN	REP	PARTS
	RUDER	SUB
PLEASES	FANATIC	
LOAM	ACMES	RENO
OGRE	LUAUS	EATS
DELL	TEDDY	TROT

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7/30/14

DOWN

- 1 Capture
- 2 Bullring cheers
- 3 Cry
- 4 Give confidence to

- 5 Syrup flavor
- 6 Tearful request
- 7 Loaned
- 8 Highly respected
- 9 Germany's capital
- 10 Hawaiian island
- 11 Songbird
- 12 Unexpected obstacle
- 14 Extraordinary
- 21 Bottle stopper
- 25 Boy
- 26 Monastery head
- 27 Male honeybee
- 28 Noisy brawl
- 29 Classic name for a dog
- 30 Was in debt
- 31 Perfect
- 32 Church walkway
- 33 Treetop homes
- 35 Mall event
- 38 Insinuates
- 39 Liberal
- 41 Tattered cloth
- 42 Guacamole and salsa
- 44 Got closer to
- 45 Library patron
- 47 Use a razor
- 48 Upper room
- 49 Just sitting there
- 50 Over the elated
- 52 Foal's mother
- 53 Soil-turning machine
- 54 Principal
- 55 Actor James Jones
- 59 Firmament

US missionary groups call for an evacuation out of Liberia

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Two North Carolina-based missionary groups have ordered the evacuation of their non-essential personnel from Liberia after a doctor and a missionary contracted Ebola. SIM USA President Bruce Johnson announced Tuesday that his group and Samaritan's Purse decided on the evacuation following an upsurge in the number of Ebola cases in Liberia. Johnson said the logistics of the evacuation are being determined. Spokesman Palmer Holt said approximately 60 employees will be evacuated. A statement from SIM says no symptoms of Ebola are present in any of the evacuees, who are being monitored continually. It was not known how many workers will be affected by the order. A Texas-trained doctor and a missionary from Charlotte have contracted the disease. □

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Report: More acidic seawater poses risks in Alaska

BECKY BOHRER
Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — The release of carbon dioxide into the air from power plant smokestacks to the tailpipe on cars could pose a risk to red king crab and other lucrative fisheries in Alaska, a new report says. Ocean water becomes more acidic when it absorbs carbon dioxide released by human sources, such as the burning of fossil fuels. Increased ocean acidification could harm important Alaska commercial and subsistence fisheries and communities that rely heavily on them, according to the new research aimed at spurring discussion on how to address the changes. The research, led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, was to be published Tuesday in the online journal Progress in Oceanography. Researchers said changes in ocean chemistry could make it harder for mollusks and other small creatures to build and keep their skeletons or shells. Previous studies have shown red king crab and tanner crab grow more slowly in more



In this Nov. 6, 2005 file photo, Ralph Strickland guides a crab pot full of red king crabs onto the deck of F/V Frigidland during the current fishery in the waters off of Juneau, Alaska.

Associated Press

acidic water and that red king crab died in highly acidified conditions. Communities in southeast and southwest Alaska face the highest risk from ocean acidification because of their reliance on fishing, rel-

atively lower income levels and fewer job alternatives than other parts of Alaska,

the report states. For communities with high food and energy costs, ocean acidification could be another hit, the research says.

According to the NOAA, Alaska's high-latitude coastal waters are more vulnerable to acidification because cold water can absorb more carbon dioxide. Circulation patterns also bring more acidic deep-ocean water to the surface, the agency said. Co-lead author of the study, NOAA oceanographer Jeremy Mathis, said the goal was to try to quantify the potential risk and impacts from ocean acidification, a question that's come up in meetings with fishermen, villages and communities but one he's never had a good answer for.

While direct, harmful impacts aren't showing up yet, the ocean is changing quickly, he said. Oceans are about 30 percent more acidic today than

they were at the start of the Industrial Revolution, he said. If fossil fuels continue to be burned at the current rate, pH levels could drop significantly by the end of the century, said Mathis, who is also director of an ocean acidification research center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

"We could have a 300 percent greater change between now and the end of the century than we have in the past 250 years combined," he said. "So the rate of change is what's accelerating."

Mathis said lab studies have shown a low level of tolerance for acidification in crab, but those impacts haven't been seen in the wild yet. As the oceans change, there are some who believe species will adapt or new organisms will emerge, and that could happen, he said. But acidification also could change population dynamics, he said.

Mars rover holds off-Earth distance record



In this July 26, 2004 file photo provided by NASA, a shadow cast by NASA's Mars Rover Opportunity stretches across the Martian surface.

Associated Press

PASADENA, California (AP) — The odometer of NASA's Mars rover Opportunity has

hit 25.01 miles (40.25 kilometers), breaking the record for off-Earth distance

traveled.

NASA officials said Monday that Opportunity drove 157 feet (47.8 meters) over the weekend, which was enough to surpass the record held by the Soviet Union's Lunokhod 2 rover. NASA project manager John Callas says Opportunity was only intended to drive about 1 kilometer and was not designed for distance. He says the rover has driven farther than any other wheeled vehicle on another world.

NASA says if the rover hits 26.2 miles (42.1 kilometers), it will reach the next major investigation site that scientists refer to as "Marathon Valley" — because it will have traveled the distance of a marathon.

The Russian Lunokhod 2 rover landed on Earth's moon in 1973 and drove 24.2 miles (38.9 kilometers).

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This Sept. 9, 2013 file photo shows reality television star from the MTV Series "Jersey Shore," Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino in New York.

Associated Press

The Situation agrees to anger management classes

MIDDLETOWN, N.J. (AP) — The Situation will be getting lessons in anger management.

Former "Jersey Shore" star Michael Sorrentino, better known as The Situation, has agreed to take the classes as part of a deal to resolve simple assault charges he faced following a July 15 fight with his brother at their family's tanning salon in Middletown Township.

A municipal court judge Monday accepted the deal and adjourned the matter for three months. If Sorrentino successfully completes the counseling program, the charge

against him could be downgraded.

Sorrentino's family — including his brother — attended the court hearing. The family owned Boca Tanning Club is the setting for a new reality show about them. The cast members of the MTV reality show "Jersey Shore," filmed in Seaside Heights, were known for their love of tanning and the motto GTL, or gym, tan, laundry. They also were known for a rowdy, partying lifestyle that resulted in some cast members getting in fights and some facing legal troubles related to alcohol use. □

Gaga on Bennett duet CD: Jazz comes easier vs. pop

MESFIN FEKADU

AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Lady Gaga is a bona fide pop star, but the singer says recording jazz music was easier than pop.

Gaga has spent two years recording an album of jazz standards with Tony Bennett called "Cheek to Cheek," to be released Sept. 23.

"You know, it's funny, but jazz comes a little more comfortable for me than pop music, than R&B music," Gaga said in an interview Monday. "I've sung jazz since I was 13 years old, which is kind of like my little secret that Tony found out. So this is almost easier for me than anything else."

Gaga made the comments with Bennett by her side ahead of the duo's taped performance at Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City for PBS, which will air in the fall. The album's first single, a cover of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes," was released Tuesday. Other selections from the Great American Songbook that appear on "Cheek to Cheek" include "It Don't Mean a Thing (If It Ain't Got That Swing)," "Sophisticated Lady," "Lush Life" and the title track. The 28-year-old and 87-year-old Ben-



Recording artists Lady Gaga, left, and Tony Bennett, attend a Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga concert taping on Monday, July 28, 2014, in New York.

Associated Press

nett first collaborated on his Grammy-winning, platinum-selling 2011 album, "Duets II." Bennett said fans will be impressed with Gaga's vocal performance on the upcoming album.

"They're going to say we had no idea she sings that well," he said.

"And they're gonna say they had no idea that Tony dressed so crazy," Gaga added, as Bennett smiled. "When you come out in your meat dress Tony, nobody is going to know what's going on."

"Cheek to Cheek" is Gaga's first release since last

year's "Artpop." Bennett released a collaborative album with Latin singers in 2012 called "Viva Duets."

The duo performed at the Montreal Jazz Festival earlier this month and surprised high school students at Bennett's Frank Sinatra School of Arts in Queens last month.

Gaga, who is currently on her "Artrave: The Artpop Ball" tour, says she is "actually happier than I've ever been." "There's 60 years between us, and when we sing, there's no distance," she added about working with Bennett. □

Music aside, Aretha Franklin excited for fair food

JULIE CARR SMYTH

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — There's something beyond delivering a set packed with her hits that's got Aretha Franklin jazzed about America's summer fair season: the food.

Ahead of her Thursday performance at the Ohio State Fair, the Queen of Soul says she's eager to track down some elephant ears, a fair staple of fried dough sprinkled with powdered sugar. "I'm looking forward to it," she says.

"I love the state fair, and I love the elephant ears."

There may be plenty of op-

portunities for fried treats ahead, given that her busy 2014 tour also includes performances at the Wisconsin and Minnesota state fairs.

Franklin says her Ohio performance will be packed with familiar songs, selections from an upcoming CD being produced by Babyface and Andre 3000, and "a few surprises; I love surprises."

After some health issues, the R&B diva says she's feeling as good as she did in her 50s

but prefers not to focus on her age now.

"I am certainly old enough to be out after midnight,"



In a Thursday, May 29, 2014 file photo, singer Aretha Franklin looks up while seated on stage during Harvard University commencement ceremonies, in Cambridge, Mass.

Associated Press

the 72-year-old star says. She says she's planning a vacation to New York after

her Wisconsin gig, including a stop at the U.S. Open. She also is taking French

lessons and studying classical piano.

Franklin says she has begun to hear the classical training in her style and inflections and expects audiences will, too.

She aspires to be as good as legendary classical pianist Vladimir Horowitz or jazz greats Art Tatum or Oscar Peterson.

"That is the level I want to be playing at," she says.

Her upcoming recording doesn't have a name yet, but Franklin says she's six tracks and five vocals into it.

She expects to finish the final three cuts in August. □

Maggie Gyllenhaal glows as 'The Honorable Woman'

FRAZIER MOORE

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "The Honorable Woman" is a meditative thriller that investigates a woman's inner life and a global hot spot. Poised between dream-state and tough reality, it exposes timeless truths while remaining as current as the next Israeli-Palestinian clash.

An eight-hour miniseries premiering Thursday at 10 p.m. EDT on SundanceTV, "The Honorable Woman" is a virtuoso effort by Hugo Blick, who wrote and directed it.

And in the lead role of Baroness Nessa Stein, an Anglo-Israeli businesswoman who wants to span a raging divide with communication cables laid between Israel and the West Bank, Maggie Gyllenhaal delivers the most nuanced yet full-bodied performance you could hope to see.

The film was shot during five months in London and Morocco, with Andrew Buchan co-starring as Nessa's brother and business partner; Janet McTeer ("Damages") as head of the British spy agency MI6, pressing its own geopolitical agenda for the region; and Stephen Rea ("The Crying Game"), who's especially splendid as the outgoing head of MI6's Middle East



Actress Maggie Gyllenhaal attends a screening of "The Honorable Woman" on Wednesday, July 23, 2014, in New York. Associated Press

desk. Politically charged, laden with foreign intrigue and family secrets, the series is, in short, magnificent.

"I was really intrigued with exploring the psychology of a woman within the chassis of a thriller," said Blick, a 49-year-old filmmaker who claims such Brit-

ish series as "The Shadow Line" and "Sensitive Skin" among his credits. "The issue of intractable polarity, but with the chance of reconciliation, is what the story is engaged in."

But what happens when the conflict exists not only in the outside world, but also, for Nessa, lodged

deep within her soul and her indelible past?

"It's often the case that when people stand on the world stage it's a diversionary technique from dealing with the very vacuum that's inside themselves that they feel their role in public life can help them fill," said Blick with a wry grin and a blistering laugh. Seated beside him for this recent interview at a Los Angeles hotel, Gyllenhaal was training her saucer-size blue eyes on him, listening and nodding thoughtfully as if none of what he voiced she'd ever heard before.

Maybe she hadn't.

"Hugo and I didn't talk very much when we were working," she said. "I don't like to have conversations like this when I'm working." The 36-year-old actress, whose films include "Sherrybaby," "Crazy Heart," "World Trade Center" and "The Dark Knight," explained that on "The Honorable Woman," she and Blick related on a level beyond words.

"Hugo was the most trusting director I've ever worked with in my life," said Gyllenhaal as she unwittingly invoked a key question — "Who do you trust?" — that serves as the first sentence her character utters.

"And I've never, ever

played a character who was more fully, wholly, truly formed than this one," she went on. "Hugo had written all eight episodes before we began, but so many things about her surprised me! So I would kind of walk into each scene knowing what I knew about Nessa, then see how it expressed itself. And then I would think, 'OK, that scene happened. Now, where are we?'"

"Maggie knew EXACTLY where the character was traveling towards," argued Blick with a smile. "Essentially all I had to do was go, 'OK, I'll put the camera here, because that's the best place to witness her delivering this character.'"

"It is much more interesting to watch an actor actually learning something," Gyllenhaal persisted, "rather than watch someone PRETEND like they're learning something. You can set up a situation for yourself that includes your own issues, terrors, strengths, and then put yourself in that situation, and when you do the scene you can learn many things. That was always what I was trying to accomplish.

"Nessa has to go through this journey," said Gyllenhaal, who clearly puts a premium on trust, "and I went through it, too." □



From left, Melvin Effendi, Caylin Effendi and Delwyn Effendi have their picture taken at the Gold & Silver Pawn Shop in Las Vegas Monday, July 28, 2014, in Las Vegas. Rick Harrison, owner of the pawn shop and one of the stars of the reality television series Pawn Stars, has proposed building a shopping plaza on land nearby. Associated Press

MICHELLE RINDELS

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The long parade of tourists who regularly stop by the downtown Las Vegas shop featured on the His-

tory Channel reality show "Pawn Stars" could soon have something better to do while waiting in line.

Gold & Silver Pawn Shop co-owner Rick Harrison has drawn up plans for a Pawn

'Pawn Stars' TV star plans stores near famous shop

Star Plaza shopping center that could boast six restaurants and about 16 small shops. The company's general contractor has submitted the proposal to the city planning department, and a review is expected in September, according to pawn shop general manager Theo Spyer.

"We have always tried to improve our customer experience while waiting in line," Spyer said, pointing to misters, benches and a hot dog stand at the premises. "Now we intend to take it to the next level. We are currently working on a line system that will enable

the fans to patronize Pawn Star Plaza without losing their position in line."

The plaza, which Harrison estimates would cost \$2 million to build, would consist of several colorful, modular units fit together like a Rubik's Cube. Harrison said he was inspired by Zappos CEO Tony Hsieh's nearby Container Park, which is built out of shipping containers commonly found on trains and barges.

"It was more of the look, flexibility, ease of construction and simplicity of design that created Rick's vision for the space," Spyer said.

The pawn shop, which is open 24 hours a day, is located in a gritty area near bail-bond offices and a now-closed tattoo parlor. Harrison told the Las Vegas Review-Journal that he wants to help rejuvenate the area without using city redevelopment funds.

"I really want to see this part of town do great," he said.

But the prospect of profiting off the steady stream of visitors is also driving the project.

"Making money is my third or fourth most favorite thing in the world," Harrison told the newspaper. □

Up From Greenwich



ROSS DOUTHAT
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When Barack Obama won the White House in 2008, he did so in an unusual way for a Democrat: As the candidate of the rich. He raised more in large-dollar donations than any of his rivals and raked in more cash from Wall Street than John McCain. In November, he won the upper class' votes: By 52 percent to 46 percent, according to exit polls, Americans making more than \$200,000 cast their ballots for Obama.

There were several reasons for this shift, some specific to 2008 (elite exhaustion with the Bush presidency, the power of Obamamania) and some reflecting deeper trends: The Republican Party's post-1970s gains among white working-class voters; the Democratic Party's post-1980s attempts to shed its anti-business reputation; the increasing cultural liberalism of the affluent; and the rise of the so-called "liberal rich."

In the wake of Obama's '08 victory, these trends confronted Republicans with an interesting dilemma: Should they seek to actively win back the Aspen-Greenwich vote, or embrace their increasingly populist coalition and try to rebuild from the middle out?

Across the first Obama term, they mostly tried the first approach. There was an incredibly strong populist mood on the right - hence the Tea Party's anti-Washington fervor, the rumblings against Wall Street from figures like Glenn Beck. But the populists marched into blind alleys on policy and rallied round never-gonna-happen standard bearers, while the mainstream of the party mostly stuck to a more generic script - job creators good, class warfare bad, you built that and now the 47 percent are living off your hard work ...

Sure enough, in 2012, Mitt Romney won back the over-\$200,000 vote, mostly by regaining ground in the suburbs around New York City. But what he didn't win was the actual election, mostly because voters outside Greenwich and New Canaan decided that a GOP obsessed with heroic entrepreneurs didn't have their interests close to heart.

So haltingly at first, and then with increasing seriousness, Republicans began to look for a different path back to power - one tailored to the party's growing dependence on working-class votes, and one designed to deliver populist substance as well as style.

Thus far they have circled around two broad approaches. One, dubbed "reform conservatism," seeks to make the welfare state and tax code

more friendly to work and child-rearing and upward mobility - through larger wage subsidies, bigger child tax credits, and a substantial clearing-out of the insider-friendly subsidies and tax breaks and regulations that drive up costs in health care, real estate, energy and higher education.

The other, "libertarian populism," is even more zealous about attacking rent-seeking and crony capitalism, while also looking for other places - criminal justice reform, notably - where a libertarian approach to public policy might benefit people lower on the economic ladder.

These two approaches substantially overlap (with the main difference being a skepticism among the libertarians about targeting tax cuts and subsidies specifically to parents and the poor). And together, they provide the foundation on which a number of prominent Republicans - Mike Lee, Marco Rubio, Rand Paul - have built policy proposals over the last year.

Now that list includes Paul Ryan, who last week released a blueprint that folds together many of the strongest reformist and libertarian ideas: There's a larger earned-income tax credit, proposed cuts to corporate welfare, a call for sentencing reform for nonviolent offenses, a critique of "regressive regulations" like licensing requirements, and much more. This kind of agenda has a long way to go before we can call it the official Republican program. It could face opposition in 2016 from donors who were pretty happy with the Romney approach, and from activists who regard anything save deep austerity as a sellout to the left.

But if the Republican Party fully embraces the ideas its younger-generation leaders are pursuing, the Democrats could suddenly find themselves in a difficult spot. Liberals can theoretically outbid a limited-government populism, yes - but given the fiscal picture, they would need to raise taxes significantly to do so, alienating their own donors, the middle class or both. And the immediate liberal critique of Ryan's new plan - that it's too paternalistic, too focused on pushing welfare recipients to work - harkened back to debates that the Democratic Party used to lose.

Meanwhile, Obama-era liberalism has grown dangerously comfortable with big business-big government partnerships. It's a bad sign when even the tribune of left-wing populism, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, feels obliged to defend, against libertarian populist attacks, an icon of crony capitalism like the Export-Import Bank. So there's a scenario - still unlikely, but much more plausible than a year ago - in which the pattern of 2012 could be reversed: A deepening association with big money and big business could suddenly become an albatross for Democrats, and the Republicans could finally - and deservedly - shake their identity as a party that cares only about the rich. □



The Fight Over 'Impeachment Lite'



CHARLES M. BLOW
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Rather than getting on with the country's business and focusing solely on can't-wait issues before they jet out of town this weekend - like the barely finished bill to fix veterans' health care and the stalled bill to deal with the humanitarian crisis of Central American children arriving at the border - House Republicans are gearing up for a grand maneuver: an apparently unprecedented move by the House to sue the president over his use of executive orders. Talk about misplaced priorities. But this isn't about the public's priorities, not even close. This is about base-voter activation; this is about midterm turnout. The president's most ardent opposition wants more punishing actions taken. There is an insatiable vengeance-lust for the haughty president who refuses to bend under pressure or fold under duress.

He must be brought to heel. He must be chastened. He must be broken. So, House Republicans are throwing the red meat into the cage.

Even Paul Ryan, fresh off his "Opportunity Grant" move to address poverty in this country - a plan that the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities said "would likely increase poverty and hardship" rather than decrease it - said Friday that he

would vote for the measure to sue the president.

I'm not sure Ryan is aware that people making less than \$30,000 a year voted for Barack Obama nearly 2-to-1 over his opponents in 2008 and 2012. Low-income people are Obama's people. You can't make a show of supposedly extending them a hand one day and use that hand to take a slap at their political hero the next. Or maybe you can, if your sense of cognitive dissonance is strong enough.

The White House is returning in kind, picking up the language of the most extreme among the far right to invoke the word "impeachment."

Dan Pfeiffer, the Obama administration senior adviser, said Friday, "I think Speaker Boehner, by going down the path of this lawsuit, has opened the door to impeachment sometime in the future."

It should be noted that most senior Republican leaders are not clamoring for impeachment - and John Boehner has flatly ruled it out, for now - but the idea that a lawsuit is akin to "impeachment lite" is one Democrats would love to take hold for the same reason that the lawsuit exists in the first place: politics.

But the concept isn't completely without underpinning. In a recent Los Angeles Times article titled "Why Experts See Little Hope for GOP Plan to Sue Obama Over Law's Delay," David G. Savage pointed out: "While the Constitution does not authorize the legislative branch to sue the president, it says the House of Representatives may vote on articles of impeachment if it believes the president has committed 'high crimes and misdemeanors.' If Republicans believe Obama has broken the law, impeachment is the appropriate vehicle, analysts say."

Adding an unprecedented legal maneuver to a long list

of what Democrats view as extraordinary slights against this particular president is likely to excite a liberal base in dire need of excitement.

As a report by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press pointed out: "Barack Obama is as powerful a motivating factor for Republican voters as he was in 2010: about half (51 percent) of those who say they will vote Republican this fall consider their vote as a vote 'against' Obama, little changed from June 2010 (52 percent). And Obama has become a less positive factor for Democrats - 36 percent of those who plan to vote for the Democrat in their district view their vote as being 'for' Obama, down from 44 percent four years ago."

But the anti-Obama Republican lawsuit could change all that.

A CNN/ORC poll released Friday found that while 45 percent of respondents said they believed the president had gone too far in expanding the power of the presidency and the executive branch, 52 percent believed that he "has been about right" or "has not gone far enough."

For comparison, in 2006, the sixth year of the George W. Bush administration, 48 percent believed that he had gone too far, while just as many thought he was about right or hadn't gone far enough.

Furthermore, only 41 percent of Americans believe House Republicans should sue the president, as opposed to 57 percent who believe they shouldn't.

And if you believe that the lawsuit is simply, as some have called it, "impeachment lite," the public truly has no appetite for that. Respondents in the CNN/ORC poll opposed impeachment by nearly 2-to-1. This may all be political theater, but in this act Democrats appear to have the most compelling lines. □



A Greek Summer Treasure

Baked Greek shrimp with tomatoes and feta, and a Greek tomato salad, in New York. In a classic salad or a dish with shrimp, sweet, meaty, sun-ripened tomatoes are served virtually unadorned.

(Fred R. Conrad/The New York Times)

DAVID TANIS

© 2014 New York Times

In Greece, the summer produce of choice is the sweet, meaty, sun-ripened red tomato. Tomatoes are eaten daily, usually with not much more adornment than a sprinkling of sea salt and a drizzle of fruity olive oil. They can be raw or cooked; either way, they are wonderful.

We all have some vague notion of what goes into a classic Greek salad. Yes, there are some that have cucumbers and peppers mixed with the tomatoes, even a few lettuce leaves. But most Greek salads (in Greece, at least) have fewer ingredients. You need tomatoes, salt and olive oil, and you can stop right there. Some good feta cheese is always welcome. For a bit more interest, add a few slices of onion, a pinch of dried oregano and some chopped parsley or mint.

For a simple summer dish with cooked tomatoes, consider shrimp with tomatoes and feta. This traditional Greek recipe disregards the commonly held notion that seafood and cheese don't mix. Not to worry; it works beautifully. A little oregano and mint are found here as well.

Some recipes call for a splash of white wine or ouzo in the sauce, but with good summer tomatoes, its unnecessary. I'd rather just pour those into glasses to drink alongside.

TOMATO SALAD

Time: 20 minutes

3 to 4 pounds ripe tomatoes, preferably heirloom

1 small red onion, sliced thinly crosswise

1 or 2 small sweet peppers, such as bell or corno di toro, sliced into thin rings

Flaky sea salt, such as Maldon

4 ounces Greek feta

cheese

2 tablespoons roughly chopped mint

1/2 teaspoon dried oregano

Fruity extra-virgin olive oil, for drizzling

1. Wash, core and slice tomatoes 1/2-inch thick. Arrange slices on a platter or in a shallow wide bowl.

2. Scatter onion and pepper slices over tomatoes and season everything with sea salt. Let sit 10 minutes to draw out juices.

3. Break feta into rough chunks and scatter over salad. Sprinkle mint and oregano over top, drizzle generously with olive oil and serve.

Yield: 4 to 6 servings

BAKED SHRIMP

Time: 45 minutes

Extra-virgin olive oil

3 large shallots, diced, about 1 cup

4 garlic cloves, minced

Salt and pepper

2 pounds large ripe tomatoes

1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes

1 1/2 pounds large shrimp, peeled and deveined

4 ounces Greek feta cheese

1/2 teaspoon dried oregano

2 tablespoons roughly chopped mint

1. Put 4 tablespoons olive oil in a wide skillet over medium heat. Add shallots and garlic, season with salt and pepper and cook, stirring, until softened, about 5 to 8 minutes. Lower heat as necessary to keep mixture from browning. Remove from heat while preparing tomatoes.

2. Fill a saucepan with water and bring to a boil. Add whole tomatoes and cook for about 2 minutes, until skins loosen. Immediately plunge tomatoes in a bowl of cold water to cool, then drain. With a paring knife, core tomatoes and slip off

skins. Cut tomatoes into thick wedges.

3. Heat oven to 400 degrees. Return skillet to stove over medium-high heat. Add tomato wedges and season with salt, pepper and red pepper flakes. Cook, stirring, until mixture is juicy and tomatoes have softened, about 10 minutes. Transfer mixture to a shallow earthenware baking dish.

4. Put shrimp in a mixing bowl. Add 1 tablespoon olive oil, season shrimp with salt and pepper and stir to coat.

Arrange shrimp over tomato mixture in one layer. Crumble cheese over surface and sprinkle with oregano.

5. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes, until tomatoes are bubbling and cheese has browned slightly. Remove from oven and let dish rest for 5 minutes. Sprinkle with mint and serve.

Yield: 4 to 6 servings. □